

# China Reconstructs

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## COVER PICTURES:

**Front:** Member of the county Party committee. Oil painting by Tang Hsiao-ming.

**Inside front:** A 300-meter-long sluiceway for transporting logs built beside a power station on the Ling-tien River in the Chianghua Yao Autonomous County, Hunan province.

**Back:** Waterfall at Ching-po Lake, Heilungkiang province, northeast China.

**Inside back:** China's first large ballistic-type super-high vacuum titanium pump, a new product used in the electronics industry.

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# CHINA'S TENTH BUMPER

**I**N spite of bad weather in some parts of the country, China's communes won another bumper harvest last year, the tenth in a row—a victory for Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. Both total output and per-unit yield of grain were the highest in history. More communes and production brigades reached the average of 7.5 tons per hectare and more counties and regions became high-harvest areas. The 1971 national output of grain was 246 million tons.

Provinces such as Hopei, Honan and Shantung, traditionally low-

yield areas, used to be short of grain. In 1970 they became self-sufficient for the first time and had surplus to sell. In 1971 they had another bumper harvest. The northern provinces used to have to import grain from the south. This situation began to change throughout the country as China's commune members followed Chairman Mao's advice: **"Take grain as the key link and ensure an all-round development."** Fighting to raise grain production levels, they also went all out to develop forestry, livestock, sidelines and fishery.

## Learn from Tachai

The biggest factor in last year's bumper harvests was the response of China's peasants to Chairman Mao's call to learn from Tachai, a production brigade in Shansi province which is a model in building up a socialist countryside. The people of this brigade firmly follow the socialist road, study Marxism - Leninism - Mao Tsetung Thought, rely on themselves and have built their barren mountain area into a new socialist village. Their output tops 7.5 tons per hectare and every family has surplus grain.





# R YEAR

CHAO FENG-NIEN

Tachai-type brigades and communes have emerged by the thousands across the land. Entire counties have become advanced Tachai units. Chengting county in Hopei province, for example, carried its campaign to learn from Tachai deep into all its communes and brigades. Today it is one of the first counties in the north to reach the target set for the regions south of the Yangtze River. It harvested 6.1 tons of grain per hectare on 23,300 hectares and 900 kilograms of ginned cotton per hectare on 8,200 hectares.

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## Basic Improvement of Farming

Last year commune members continued their vigorous mass movements to control water, restructure land and eliminate alkaline and saline soil. At one point 90 million people worked on these basic farm improvements in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard work. Five thousand million cubic meters of earthwork was completed and 2,266,000 hectares of land transformed into stable high-yield fields free from flood and drought. In spite of the fact that last year drought, flood, winds and insects affected an area three times greater than in 1970, basic land improvements and the peasants' stubborn resistance won good harvests.

Hunan province was one of these areas. Last year it was hit by a drought which lasted four

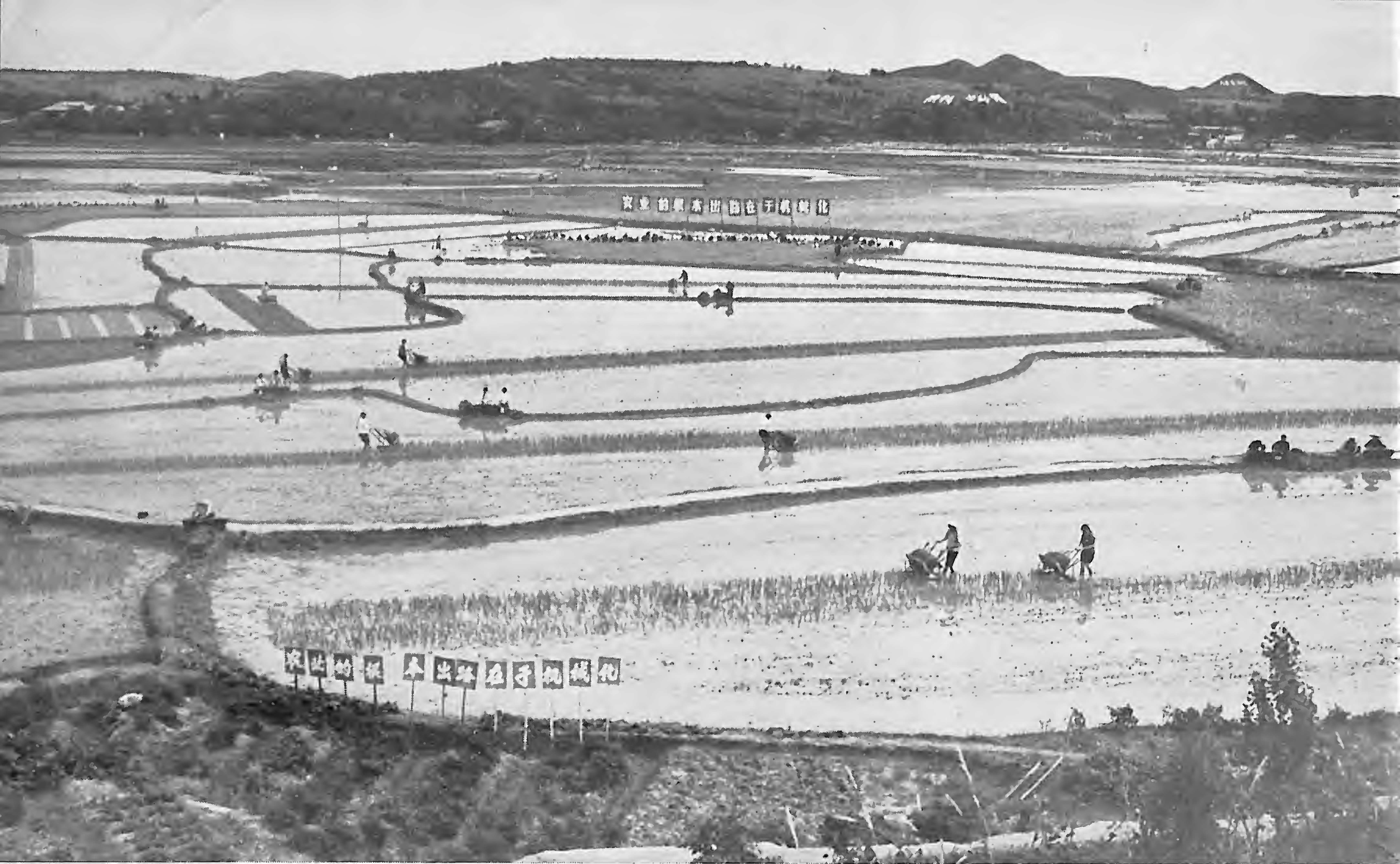
months, the second worst since 1949. But in the winter of 1970 provincial leaders had mobilized the people's strength and wisdom for building water conservation projects. As many as 7,800,000 people at one time worked to build 510,000 water conservation projects, involving 450 million cubic meters of earthwork. They made 200,000 hectares of land into fields which will not suffer from drought or waterlogging and are capable of giving stable, high yields. Hunan's grain production was six percent over 1970 and the highest in history.

Shehung county in Szechuan province was another area affected by bad conditions. Constantly analyzing their own experience, the people have continued the all-round improvement of mountains, rivers, forests and fields to suit local conditions. Since the winter

Cotton harvest in Ting county, Hopei province.







Rice transplanters in the fields of the Chaoming production brigade in Chuchow county, Hunan province.

of 1970, they have transformed 3,000 hectares of land, built 50 reservoirs each with a 150,000-cubic-meter capacity, 3,195 ponds, some electric pumping stations, afforested 1,533 hectares and planted 34 million trees. Thus, when the county was hit by a drought over four months last year, grain and cotton output still increased.

#### Farm Mechanization

The rapid development of farm mechanization is another important reason for China's ten successive bumper harvests. Local factories using local resources have helped speed the process. Last year's output of tractors, processing machines, harvesters, threshers, drainage and irrigation machinery topped 1970 by a big margin. Over 1,000 kinds of main agricultural machines are now manufactured across the country. In the south where rice used to be transplanted by hand, peasants have invented powered or semi-mechanized transplanters adapted to their own local conditions. They have also made small, easy to operate, highly

efficient hand-operated reapers and harvesters.

Huiyang county in Kwangtung province has made a simple rice reaping and threshing combine which harvests up to nearly a half hectare of rice per hour. Shanghang county peasants in Fukien province have designed a thresher which weighs only 30 kilograms. Easy to carry and dismantle, it has more advantages in mountainous areas than motor-driven or hand-operated threshers already in use. Locally designed and built machines have pushed production up in the rice-growing areas.

#### Scientific Farming

Scientific farming was another reason for last year's bumper harvests. Commune members worked hard to raise and popularize better seed strains. They have done much research on field management and rational close planting as important measures to raise the per-unit yield. Communes and brigades have formed agricultural scientific experiment groups and trained specialists of their own. Technicians of agricultural scien-





tific research organizations help by going to the countryside to conduct experiments together with the peasants.

In the rural areas outside of Peking over 70 percent of the production brigades and teams have established scientific experiment groups which test and introduce new farm techniques. Last year over 2,000 brigades in the area raised a new hybrid created by crossing maize with sorghum, and planted nine times as much of it as in 1970. A new method of interplanting wheat and maize was also tried out on more than 70 percent of the area's wheat fields, increasing both crops. Highly efficient insecticides and bacterial fertilizers are now widely used. Since 1968 grain production in Peking's rural areas has topped the targets set by the state. Last year they had their greatest harvest and also set new records with industrial crops.



On-the-spot soil analysis in the Yangtso brigade, Fukien province.

Members of the Mati commune in Kwangsi build a canal through the mountains.



Part of an electrified irrigation project on the upper reaches of the Yellow River.





# On the Edge of the Desert



Reservoir in the desert built by the people of Minchin county, Kansu province, irrigates thousands of hectares of farmland and created conditions for afforestation to control the sand.

Commune members brought earth from far away to put on top of the sand, then planted trees and grass to stop shifting sand.



A forest belt.



**M**INCHIN (Diligent People) county in Kansu province, northwest China, is surrounded on three sides by desert. For centuries it was a land of wind, sand, alkali and drought. With an annual evaporation rate 23 times the rainfall, the rivers often went dry. Agricultural development was almost impossible.

But under socialism, particularly in recent years, the county's peasants have made a tremendous effort to locate and use subsurface water, and plant tree belts and grasses against the wind and sand. From the spring of 1970 to the end of 1971, they sank 15,000 wells and

dug thousands of ponds. Sixty-one percent of the area under grain crops is now irrigated with well water. By constant planting over the years they now have 100 shelter belts totalling 850 kilometers, over 33,000 hectares of forests and large areas of plants holding back the sand.

Last year the peasants overcame the worst drought in many years, wrested a good grain harvest and brought about a big increase in livestock. Having long depended on the state for grain, the county is not only self-sufficient but produces surplus grain to support national construction.

After transforming nature, a bumper harvest of grain.





# SOME FACTS ABOUT WOMEN IN CHINA

## — an interview with a textile worker

We often receive letters from our readers asking for information about China's women. So we went to visit Comrade Liu Kuei-ying, a woman weaver and vice-chairman of the revolutionary committee of Peking No. 2 Cotton Textile Mill, and gave her some of our readers' questions to answer. — Ed.

**Question:** Would you talk about women's position in today's political and social life?

**Answer:** Well, first of all, after the People's Republic of China was founded, it was specifically written into the Constitution that women "enjoy equal rights with men in all spheres of political, economic, cultural, social and family life". As the revolution and the building of socialism developed in China, this provision came into full effect.

The history of the older women in our mill shows this. Before liberation, poverty forced many of them to become child brides or maidservants of the rich. When they came to work in the mill, they were oppressed and exploited more than the men by the capitalists and their bosses. Their life was so utterly miserable that you couldn't say they had any political or social status at all. Not only that, but most women were poisoned by the feudal and bourgeois thinking of the old society and did not know what kind of status or rights they should have. Only a very few who had progressive ideas recognized this.

Today, with equal rights in every field, women are handling all kinds of work. They are in leading positions at all levels. During the proletarian cultural revolution, when we elected members of the revolutionary committee, the leadership kept insisting that there should be a proper proportion of women. In our mill, one-third of the leaders in the revolutionary committee and the various workshops are women. Our women are also deputies to the National People's



Liu Kuei-ying (left) with a co-worker.

Congress, the highest organ of state power, and representatives to the national congresses of the Chinese Communist Party. Among the representatives sent to the Party's Ninth National Congress by the cotton and woollen textile mills in Peking were four women.

**Question:** Is equal pay for equal work universal?

**Answer:** Yes. Women are paid the same as men for equal work. But in order to take over some jobs traditionally done by men, we need first to master the skills. Thus the state pays a lot of attention to training women.

In the old society I could only keep from starving by picking up cinders. There wasn't any way to study. After liberation came in 1949, I went to a primary school for a year and a half. In 1954 I entered the mill when it was still being built and was promptly sent to a textile mill in Tsingtao to learn. Over 3,000 people went, most of them women. Then after we came back to Peking, we joined

the sparetime literacy class run by our mill.

The Party paid much attention to the raising of our political consciousness. In 1959 I became a member of the Communist Party and in 1968 I was elected to the mill's revolutionary committee.

Since a high political level raises ability, the leaders of the revolutionary committee and workshops have a fixed day each week to study works by Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Chairman Mao. This helps us use the scientific principles of Marxism-Leninism to analyze, discuss and discover ways to solve practical problems in our work.

**Question:** How does China protect the health and well-being of women?

**Answer:** In many ways. Women are not assigned heavy work. Beginning from her seventh month of pregnancy, a woman worker may work seven hours a day instead of eight. After the birth, she has 56



days of paid maternity leave — 72 days for twins or difficult birth. The mill has a nursery for babies and a kindergarten for children up to seven years old. Mothers nurse their babies twice a day for half an hour. If the baby is taken care of at home not near the mill, the nursing time can be increased.

Great attention is paid to the health of women and their families. The mill has a 30-bed clinic and health stations in the workshops, nursery, kindergarten and dormitories. This is time saving and convenient for women workers, their children and other family members. Medical charges for workers and cadres are free. Family members pay at half cost and the rest is provided by the state. All women workers have regular physical examinations. In addition,



A mother takes time out from work to nurse her baby in the creche.

those over 35 years of age have a special medical check so as to detect in time diseases common to this age group.

My husband, who was a maintenance worker in the mill in 1969, had to have an operation to remove part of his stomach. This cost more than 300 yuan. If it had happened in the old society, I, as a worker's wife, would have become helpless. Workers were never paid when they were ill. How could he have raised such a big sum of money? Today, we don't worry about such things. When my husband was well again, he was assigned to a bench job more suitable to his physical condition.

**Question:** What measures do you take for planned parenthood?

**Answer:** Most of us in the mill have two or three children. The comrades responsible for the well-being of women workers and the clinic medical workers explain the benefits of planned parenthood to the women and tell them how to do it. Now that women workers are independent economically, they have equal rights in deciding family affairs — a thing that didn't exist in the old society. Workers in our mill pay attention to planned parenthood because it ensures the health of mothers and children, gives mothers more time for study and for educating their children better. The state also helps us women in other ways such as making the contraceptive pill, abortions and planned-parenthood operations available. This is all free of charge and the women have the right of decision in these matters.

# Communist

A FEW MONTHS ago I joined a group travelling to important places in China. At one stage we arrived in Taiyuan, capital of Shansi province. Our program of visits in the city included the Liu Hu-lan museum-park in Yun-chouhsi village, Wenshui county.

The grand museum-park in honor of the revolutionary heroine is on a beautifully green, rich plain, with the Luliang Mountains to the west.

We were received by Chao Fa-tao, a responsible comrade from the park, and other responsible comrades from the county revolutionary committee. Liu Hu-lan's mother, Comrade Hu Wen-hsiu, joined us later. They began an introduction to the heroine's fascinating life.

"Liu Hu-lan was born on the eighth of October, 1932," Comrade Chao began, leading us into the tale.

That year was a dark epoch in China, we thought at once. A year before, on the 18th of September, 1931, Japanese imperialism had unleashed a large-scale war against China. Offering no resistance, the reactionary Kuomintang government let them take over the three northeastern provinces of the country, do as they please and plunder at will. The following year the Japanese stretched their claws toward north China.

Liu Hu-lan was born into a family of fairly poor peasants. Here as in the rest of the country, hunger threatened every day. Although on a fertile, beautiful plain in the center of the province, the peasants groaned under oppression and exploitation, suffering indescribably. Harvests won at the cost of sweat and blood were abundant, but never remained in their hands. Instead, they went to Taiyuan, where they filled the granaries of the bandits under Yen Hsi-shan, military chief of the zone. Only drops of sweat



# Heroine Liu Hu-lan

RUBEN SANCHEZ

and suffering fell into the peasants' bowls. This was where Liu Hu-lan grew up.

In 1936, when Hu-lan was four, the Kuomintang government continued to sell out the country. The imperialist armies had already crossed the Great Wall and invaded north China. At this crucial moment, a light of hope appeared on the horizon—the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army. Led by the Communist Party of China with Comrade Mao Tsetung as Chairman of the Central Committee, it had completed its glorious Long March and headed north to resist Japan. In March of that year the Red Army occupied Fenyang, a few dozen kilometers from Wenshui county. This made Yen Hsi-shan's bandits tremble in their fortress at Taiyuan. Wenshui soon entered the sphere of action of Red Army guerrilla detachments. Because of their good deeds for the people and their battle exploits, their prestige grew rapidly among the local people. The villagers of Yunchouhsi im-

patiently awaited their arrival in the locality.

At this time the Communist Party of China guided by Comrade Mao Tsetung made a correct analysis of the situation and stated the principal task of the moment in crystal-clear terms: form an anti-Japanese national united front and engage in a war of resistance against imperialism. After compelling the Kuomintang to stop the civil war and the start of the War of Resistance against Japan, the Red Army was reorganized into the Eighth Route Army (predecessor of the People's Liberation Army), after which it fought continuously in the front lines, grew and developed.

Liu Hu-lan passed her infancy during the anti-Japanese war (1937-45). She was a restless spirit. "She wanted to know everything," her mother told us, "and she never tired of asking questions: Why do we peasants suffer so? Why have the Japanese invaded our country? She observed every-



A statue of Liu Hu-lan in her native village.

School children pay tribute to Liu Hu-lan.



thing attentively and made comparisons. She distinguished clearly between those who loved the people and those who were their enemies. She was raised in the spirit of sacrifice of the anti-Japanese guerrillas led by the Communist Party. That's how she learned to love the Party and the Eighth Route Army."

When she was ten she joined the village Anti-Japanese Children's League, in which she helped the resistance soldiers stand guard, execute despots, transport food and clothing and care for the wounded. In cooperation with the members of the Party-led armed work team she went to enemy





The Kuomintang reactionaries interrogated Liu Hu-lan in this temple.

camps where she distributed leaflets and made anti-Japanese propaganda. Her level of political consciousness was rising.

In August 1945, Japanese imperialism surrendered. On the 1st of September, the Eighth Route Army liberated the county town of Wenshui. But in alliance with the troops of Yen Hsi-shan and the Japanese remnants, the traitor Chiang Kai-shek launched a furious attack on the liberated areas led by the Communist Party. The people were plunged into suffering again.

At this critical moment for the country and the people, Comrade Mao analyzed the situation dialectically and put forth the slogan: Heighten vigilance to face a possible civil war. The Wenshui county Party committee organized courses to study this call, other works of Comrade Mao and important Communist Party documents on the situation, and to prepare the masses to struggle against the enemy. Liu Hu-lan enthusiastically attended a women's study course organized in Kuanchiapao, a village five kilometers from Yunchouhsi. She was only 13 years old then, but she looked 17 or 18. Her enthusiasm for study, love of work and revolutionary spirit caught everybody's attention, especially that of the Party cadres.

At the end of the 40-day course, Hu-lan understood more of the reactionary nature of the Kuomin-

tang, in addition to many fundamentals of Marxism - Leninism - Mao Tsetung Thought. She learned the truth that power grows out of the barrel of a gun and the importance of armed struggle for oppressed peoples. On her return she was elected secretary of the village Women's Association for National Salvation because of her conscientiousness, activity and enthusiasm. She was just 14.

In the summer of 1946 the regional Party committee gave her an important job. Hu-lan had a profound love for the Communist Party. She enthusiastically accepted the task and shortly after applied to join the Party. Since she was only 14, the Party committee discussed the question thoroughly. But in view of her relatively high proletarian consciousness and her spirit of selflessly serving the people, they finally decided to accept her as a probationary member.\* Liu Hu-lan had the honor of joining the Party. "I can't tell you how happy she was," her mother told us.

Now she worked with even greater enthusiasm. A year later, when she returned to the village after completing her assigned task, she led the people in carrying out land reform. She struggled against the Rightist Shih Wu-tse, who had sneaked into the Peasants' Association and the Party. The masses were mobilized and overthrew the landlord Shih Ting-fu. Liberated politically, the peasants wanted to join the army and take part in the revolutionary war.

In June 1946 the Kuomintang reactionaries unleashed their offensive against the liberated areas. The situation became aggravated

\* Before the new Party Constitution was adopted by the Ninth National Congress of the Communist Party of China on April 14, 1969, the old Party Constitution stipulated that after joining the Party there was a probationary period of six months to a year.

in September and October because Yen Hsi-shan mobilized almost 10,000 troops to surround the county. The county Party committee decided that the cadres go to the Luliang Mountains to work. But Liu Hu-lan asked to stay in the village since, she said, she knew the place well and could easily carry on the struggle with the enemy. She knew how necessary mass work in the village was to the Party, and the importance of keeping in contact with this and many other things connected with the place. The Party agreed to her request.

The struggle was much more intense after that. Her life became ever more difficult. But she was able to obtain much valuable information on enemy movements and get it to the county Party committee.

There in the heart of the enemy she was arrested on the 12th of January 1947, betrayed by the traitor Shih Wu-tse. The situation had already worsened to the point that it was impossible to do any work in the village. On orders from the Party, she was ready to leave for the mountains that day, but at dawn when she got up to prepare her things and leave, Yen Hsi-shan's troops launched a new attack. They surrounded the village and ordered the whole population to assemble on an open ground to the south beside a temple.

"They ordered that only one person remain in each house," her mother told us. "If two or more were found in a house, they would be considered accomplices of the Eighth Route Army." At first Liu Hu-lan tried to hide, but she couldn't find a suitable place. Her mother had already left for the temple and she decided to go too so as not to endanger anyone else.

On her arrival at the temple beside her mother, one of the bandits spotted her and approached her. Hu-lan was arrested on the spot. They took her before a reactionary officer in the temple!

"You're Liu Hu-lan?" asked the officer.

"Yes, what of it?" she answered with determination.



"Someone has already confessed and said that you're a Communist."

"If you say so, fine, I'm a Communist!"

"Who else in the village is a Communist?"

"Just me, I'm the only one," Hu-lan answered sharply.

"Who's in the Eighth Route Army?"

"I don't know anyone," Hu-lan said dryly.

The officer became exasperated and continued the interrogation for a long time, making all kinds of threats. Hu-lan remained staunch and calm. Stalin said that **"We Communists are people of a special mold. We are made of a special stuff. . . . It is not given to everyone to withstand the stresses and storms that accompany membership in such a party."** Hu-lan was showing this communist mold in the face of fascist threats.

Furious, the officer shouted, "Aren't you afraid of death? You're still very young!"

Hu-lan answered resolutely, "No, I'm not afraid of death. If I were I wouldn't have joined the Communist Party."

Then, to try to frighten her, the officer ordered her decapitated. But on seeing her walk resolutely and without any sign of fear, he changed his tactics. He called her and offered to let her live if she would give up working with the Eighth Route Army. Hu-lan answered without hesitation, "No! I won't surrender even if you give me a sack of gold!"

The officer called the soldiers standing guard outside and ordered them to tie her hands. They carried out the order. Furious, Hu-lan looked at them from eyes filled with hatred. Then she strode out.

There were six other detainees on the execution ground, revolutionary peasants, two of whom had been arrested that day.

The hysterical officer shouted threats at the population. "Now you'll learn," he yelled. "Whoever has relations with the Eighth Route Army will meet the same fate!" The soldiers brought two fodder cutters and some sticks.

The officer shouted at the crowd, "Are these seven people good or bad?"

But contrary to the fascist's expectation, the crowd answered with one voice, "They're good! They're all good!"

Filled with rage, the officer ordered the first two beaten and then decapitated. Hatred for the enemy reflected in their eyes, the two revolutionary peasants bravely denounced the enemy and shouted many slogans before they died for their fatherland.

The murderous officer turned toward Hu-lan and asked her, "Do you still want to die? Will you confess?"

Hu-lan answered firmly, "No! I won't surrender even in death!"

Then they killed the other four, after beating them until they were tired. After each murder the officer asked Hu-lan the same thing, "Are you afraid? Will you confess?"

And Hu-lan remained staunch and resolute. "What have I to fear? I won't give up even if I die."

The guillotines dripped blood. Liu Hu-lan's turn came. "What," she said, "am I to die this way too?"

"The same as the others," the fascist officer replied cruelly.

Liu Hu-lan looked defiantly at the murderer. Then she turned

eyes filled with love to the determined gathering of the population. She advanced with firm steps toward the guillotine.

The murderous blade fell. . . . Liu Hu-lan's eyes remained open until the end, as if seeing the joyous dawn. The Party and the people went into mourning once again, but they turned their grief into strength to fight harder.

Wenshui was liberated the 2nd of February. The Eighth Route Army entered the county town. Yen Hsi-shan's troops surrendered moments after the triumphant entry of the Eighth Route Army. The people sang and danced with joy. The Party organization posthumously conferred on Liu Hu-lan the title of full Party member.

"In 1951 the betrayer and murderers of Liu Hu-lan were arrested and judged according to the revolutionary law. The Chinese people took their vengeance for this cruel murder, as well as the others committed by the fascists," Comrade Chao concluded.

Liu Hu-lan was a great, worthy daughter of the proletariat. Although this heroine's life was short, she did not hesitate to sacrifice it at the altar of the revolution and communism.

The renowned leader of the Chinese people Comrade Mao Tsetung gave the best summary of Liu Hu-lan's life: **"A great life, a glorious death."**

Liu Hu-lan's parents, brothers and sister.







Chang Chien-hua at the helm.

# The 'March 8th' Fishing Boats

the four girls ran into a test. A big wind came up. Their boat rose and fell in the waves, rolling from side to side. In no time they were seasick and the captain ordered them below to rest. Lying in her bunk, Wen Shu-chen went through a fierce mental struggle. She thought of how she had expressed her determination to the Party and of what the commune Party committee had told her before she set out: "Stand up under the wind and waves, break a new path for island women."

Crawling out of her bunk, she encouraged her girl friends, "It doesn't matter if we're seasick, everything's hard in the beginning. If the Red Army overcame all the difficulties of the Long March, why can't we get over our seasickness?" Picking up their spirits, the girls went up on deck, sticking close to the cabin wall. They worked the sculls, hauled in the net and sorted fish. They gradually got used to life on the boat.

Spurred by the example of Wen Shu-chen, another group of girls soon went aboard to take part in deep-sea fishing. Changtzu commune bought its first pair of 60 h.p. motorized junks in 1960. To commend Wen Shu-chen and her women's team for their daring, the commune Party organization named the junks the "March 8th"\* unit. The boats always operate together and Wen Shu-chen became the unit's first captain, to the great joy of the women.

Wen Shu-chen did not understand the technical work involved in running a boat, so she studied

\* March 8th is International Working Women's Day.

**E**ACH spring, fishing boats shuttle back and forth over the blue expanse of the Pohai and Yellow seas. Among them is a pair of deep-sea motorized junks piloted by girls. Aside from a few old fishermen along to give them technical guidance, the captain, first and second mates, machinists, winch operators, radio operators and political instructors are women.

These are the famous "March 8th" fishing boats out of Changtzu Island in Liaoning province. They have sailed for a decade and caught 3,700 tons of fish for the state. They are a red banner unit on China's fishing front.

## China's Daughters Aim High

Any fishing community knows that going out to sea has always been men's work and the women work on shore. In 1958 the Party Central Committee and Chairman Mao called on the Chinese people to "go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism". Like the rest of the

country, Changtzu Island was excited. Eighteen-year-old fisherman's daughter Wen Shu-chen determined to break the bonds of tradition and sail the seas to fish for the revolution like the men. She and three of her girl friends went to the Changtzu commune Party committee to make their request. The committee thought they were heading in the right direction and approved their request.

When the news got around that women were to go out to sea to fish, everyone began to talk. One said, "No one ever heard of women going deep-sea fishing. It can't be done." Another said, "A woman wants to go to sea to show her strength? That's like a baby chick trying to eat a soyabean — she'll choke on it!"

"Don't look down on others!" Wen Shu-chen replied to all this. "As long as we are led by the Party and Chairman Mao, we fear nothing and can do anything! We women aren't cripples, why can't we go out to sea?"

The revolutionary road isn't all plain sailing. Their second day out



hard as she worked. She did not know how to read charts, so she asked an old hand to teach her. With warm help from her comrades and tempering at sea, Wen Shu-chen became the acknowledged leader of the "March 8th". In 1962 "March 8th" caught over 500 tons of fish, a good record for the year. Faced with this fact, people could not help exclaiming, "The women of new China are really all right!"

During the cultural revolution, the masses elected Wen Shu-chen to the new leading groups. She became vice-chairman of the Luta city and Changhai county revolutionary committees. In April 1969 she attended the Ninth National Congress of the Communist Party of China and saw Chairman Mao.

### The Making of a Captain

The "March 8th" unit moves forward and a generation of new women matures. In winter 1968, eighteen-year-old fisherman's daughter Chang Chien-hua came aboard. In primary school the teacher had told the moving story of how Wen Shu-chen had started the "March 8th" unit. Secretly she made up her mind that when she grew up she would follow in her footsteps.

Her first day on board, Chang Chien-hua was given a lesson on class struggle by veteran fisherman Shih Yueh-hsiu, who compared the bitter life of the old society with the good life in the new. Wen Shu-chen gave her a notebook, encouraging her to study Chairman Mao's works conscientiously. "Fishing for the revolution is my wish," she wrote in the notebook. "Fighting wind and waves, I won't fear hardships or difficulties." Everyone said that Chang Chien-hua had the vitality, boldness and drive characteristic of the girls of new China. After being on board only half a year, she joined the Communist Party. Before long she became the captain of the "March 8th" unit.

Being captain of a boat is not an easy job. "I haven't been to sea very long," Chang Chien-hua thought. Can I lead a crew? But

paths are made by people walking, she thought. Someone has to carry the heavy load.

One windy day not long after she became captain, Chang Chien-hua was in the wheelhouse directing the hauling of the net. Nervous, she did not hold the helm steady. Because the boat was not in the right position, the net slipped underneath. If the boat was not promptly brought around and the net pulled out, it could foul the propeller at any moment. The people on deck shouted to her to bring the boat around. Chang Chien-hua used all her strength but the boat did not budge. She was so anxious she did not know what to do. Fortunately veteran fisherman Shih Yueh-hsiu saw what the trouble was and told her to put the helm hard to port, solving the problem.

That night Chang Chien-hua could not get to sleep. Up on deck she studied Chairman Mao's *Serve the People*, *In Memory of Norman Bethune* and *The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains* under the anchor light late into the night. She realized that the reason she had been so nervous was the self-interest in her head. She did not have the Foolish Old Man's spirit of despising difficulties. Her low level of skill at the helm showed that she was not constantly perfecting her technique as Dr. Bethune had done. She opened up her notebook and wrote down

what she learned that day. After this she studied Chairman Mao's works more conscientiously.

To become familiar with the laws governing the movement of schools of fish, Chang Chien-hua asked veteran fishermen to teach her as they worked. She observed and studied the surface of the sea in different areas and the activity of other fishing boats. Whenever an old hand was at the helm, she would stand in the wheelhouse carefully watching how he held the wheel, set the course and told the wind direction. She studied the charts, following the course. Modest and studious, she made fast progress, finally becoming a captain with firm will and technical skill.

### Beating the Storm

One morning as Chang Chien-hua and the others were fishing in the middle of Pohai Bay, the sky suddenly darkened and a gale blew up. One giant wave after another rolled down on the two boats. Chang Chien-hua ordered the net hauled in at once, a dangerous job with the boats rolling and pitching badly. After a short, tense battle, they had the net hauled up and headed for the port of Chinwangtao under full throttle. The wind got stronger and the waves higher. Suddenly one broke right over one of the boats, washing the hold cover into the sea. Water filled the hold and the boat slowly began

Veteran fisherman Shih Yueh-hsiu teaches Chang Chien-hua and Chu Chin-hsia.







Former captain Wen Shu-chen often returns to work on board.



Purser Hsu Shu-lan.



Radio operator Hsu Shu-ching, Hsu Shu-lan's sister.

to sink. Chang Chien-hua and the crew started the pumps and began bailing furiously to beat the storm and save state property. After battling two days and a night, the "March 8th" unit sailed safely into port at Chinwangtao.

### Fearless

The girls of the "March 8th" unit say, "We fear neither hardship nor death." This collective keeps training people with wisdom, strength and courage.

Chao Shu-ying joined the crew in 1969. When she got over her first seasickness she was assigned to the engine. Now the smell of oil made her nauseous all over again. But she gritted her teeth and kept working to learn her skill. When the engine's exhaust pipe got caked with soot, she cleaned it out by hand. Often covered with grease, she never complained.

One night after the boats had dropped anchor, Chao Shu-ying was on duty. When she went into the engine room to inspect the spare parts, she discovered the boat was leaking and water almost covered the clutch. She knew that unless she started the engine and pumped the water out, it would not only affect the next day's fishing but shorten the life of the engine. Although she had not been a machinist for long and had never started the engine by herself, she decided to try. Her first two attempts failed. She thought of Chairman Mao's "Be brave, firm and cool, and learn in

the struggle." Carefully analyzing the reasons for her two previous failures, she started the engine on the third try and pumped out the water.

Chi Kuei-ying, a graduate of the Luta City Normal School, joined the "March 8th" in 1969 with the desire to learn from the fishermen, temper and remold herself into someone with the thoughts and feelings of the working people. Hardship and difficulty steeled her into a firm, unyielding character.

One day as they were hauling in the net, a big wind came up. The wind and waves started to beat the net back into the sea. Chi Kuei-ying was standing at the side of the boat, hook in hand, ready to snag the net. A wave broke over the boat, carrying the net out with it. Instantly she jumped onto the net and held on with both hands. From the wheelhouse, the captain shouted anxiously, "Come on up, that's dangerous!" But she and other hands fought the waves until the net was hauled up.

With the winter snows of 1969, the fish moved south in the Yellow Sea. According to past practice, the time had come for the fishermen's winter rest. To keep on fishing would mean going to the distant open seas south of the Shantung peninsula. With complicated waters and waves three feet high even when it is calm, only big boats attempted it.

The high seas presented many problems for 60-h.p. junks such as

those of the "March 8th". But the girls wanted to try it. "We like the wind and waves," they said.

First they studied articles by Chairman Mao. They carefully inspected the whole boat and made all preparations. Then, in a snowstorm, they set out for the distant seas. They caught over 30 tons of fish in less than a month, breaking a new path for small boats in winter fishing.

With the arrival of the shrimp-ing season in the autumn of 1971 the girls of the "March 8th" unit confidently prepared for big hauls. But because they had not grasped the laws governing the distribution of migrating shrimp, they ran into problems right at the beginning. They had thought to follow the big shrimp schools, but they wound up chasing waves. The catch on their first trip out was small.

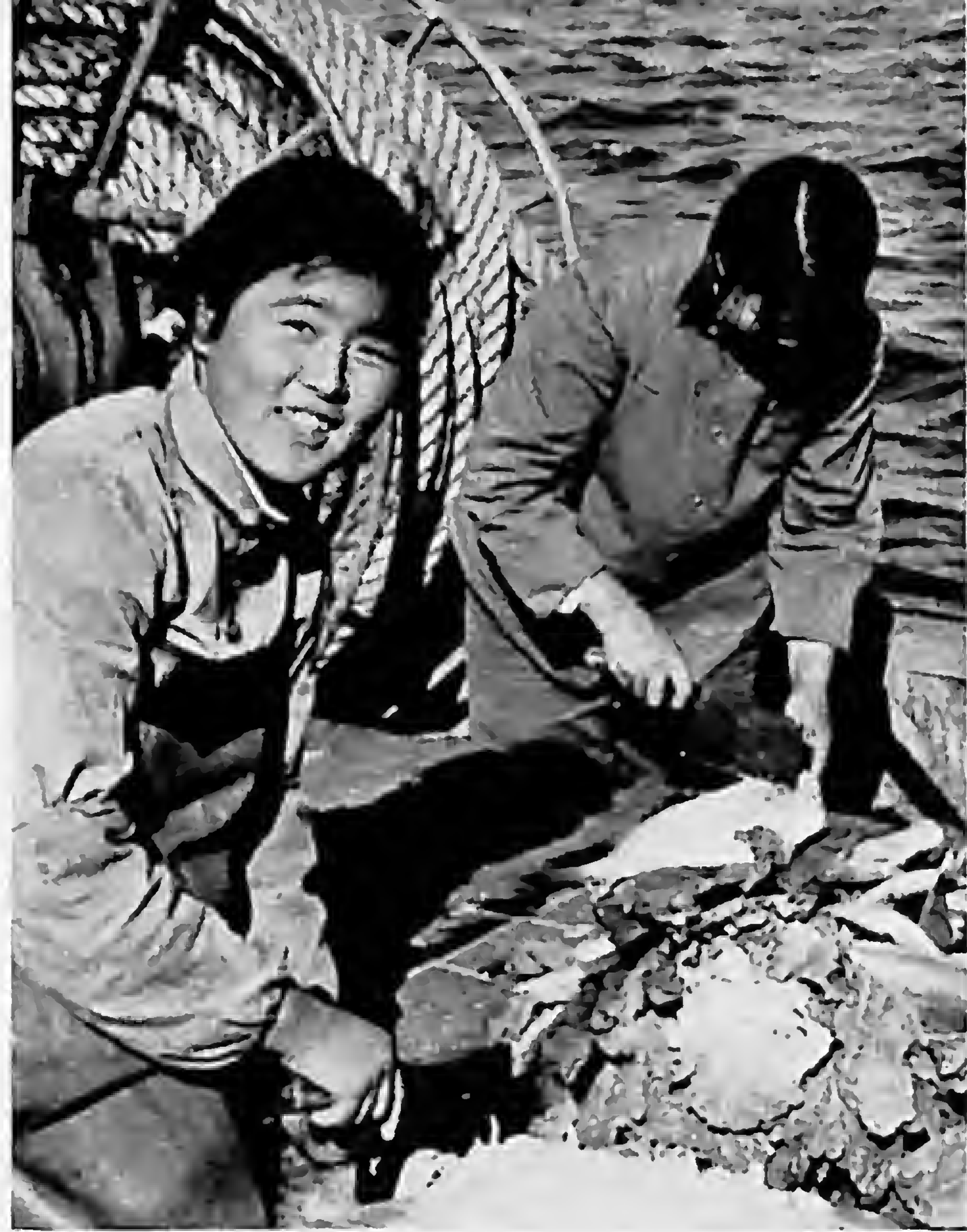
What happened? The girls held a meeting to analyze their experience. They finally found the reason — they hadn't realized that unlike past years, this year the shrimp schools were small and relatively dispersed, moving over large areas. In view of these changed conditions, they decided to fish steadily around the clock, hauling in the net carefully and often. In this way they got one good catch after another, fulfilling their quota with flying colors.

The women of the "March 8th" fishing unit continue to write new entries in the log, making new contributions to building socialism.





Machinist Chao Shu-ying.



Cooks Liu Yun-chih (front)  
and Chang Chin-hsia.



Chi Kuei-ying, graduate  
of a city school.

Crew of the "March 8th".





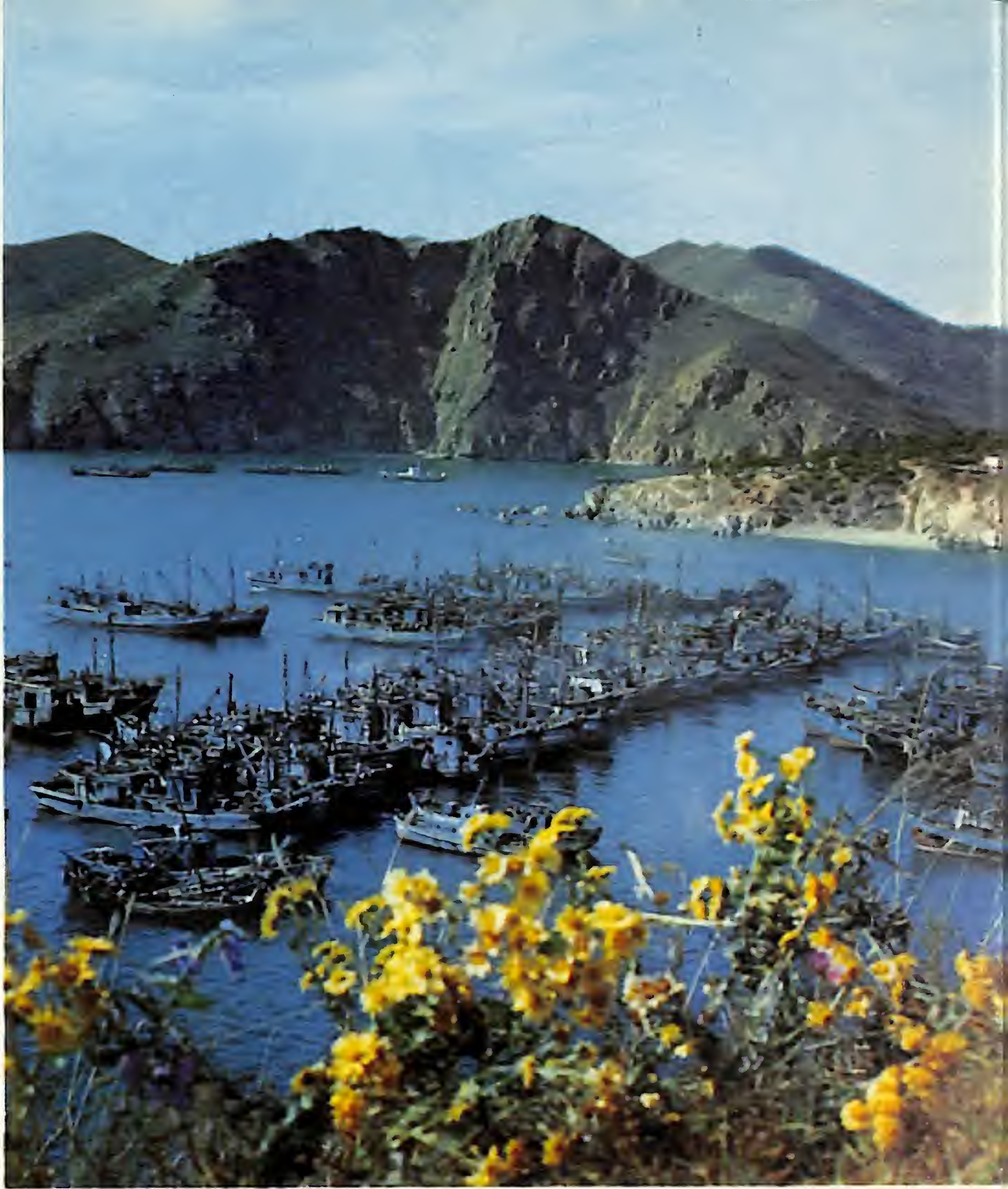
The women at sea.







Captain Chang Chien-hua.



The fishing port of Laohutan at Talién, frequented by the "March 8th".

Mending the net.





# Everybody Does Exercises

**T**HE SOUND of a bugle comes over the loudspeaker. It is followed by two quotations from Chairman Mao Tsetung: "Promote physical culture and build up the people's health." "Heighten our vigilance, defend the motherland." Then, one. . . two. . . three. . . four. . . lively music begins. This takes place early every morning and at the start of 15-minute work breaks in morning and afternoon. It

is mass exercise time and in nearly every place in China one can see workers, rural commune members, army men, office personnel and schoolchildren turning out. Since last September a new set of these calisthenics, improved and developed in the cultural revolution, has been introduced.

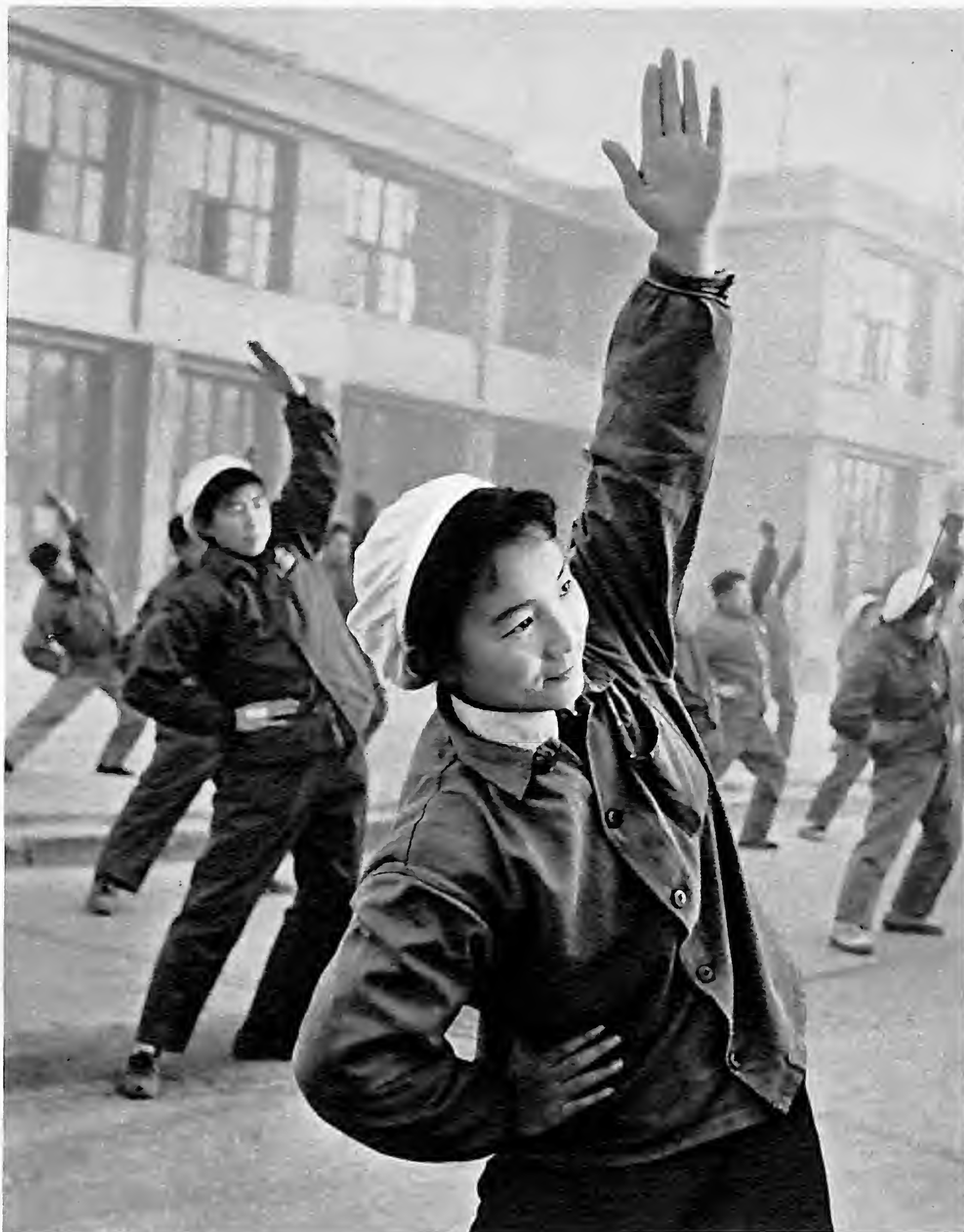
The new set of calisthenics takes five minutes. Although stimulating, they are not too strenuous for

people who are elderly or not in the best of health. They are superior to previous sets in that they bring into action every part of the body, and their vigorous mood is felt to be a more fitting expression of the revolutionary spirit of the Chinese people. They incorporate some movements from traditional Chinese boxing. For the musical accompaniment, which is broadcast over loudspeakers from radios or records, a new, more lively piece was composed under the direction of the Central Philharmonic Society.

Although each of four previous sets of calisthenics introduced was an improvement over its predecessor, the workers, peasants and soldiers still felt they were rather long and difficult to learn. Late in 1969 a special group of physical culture workers began to prepare a new set of exercises which would better meet the needs of the people, of building socialism and of national defence. They summed up the advantages and shortcomings of previous sets and conducted exhaustive investigations among working people and army men to learn the kind of labor and sports they engaged in and their opinions on exercises.

They found that people at both physical labor and office jobs most often work in a position in which they bend forward. They use certain parts of their bodies a great deal but do not engage in much movement of the whole body. Therefore the new set of exercises has been designed to include more

Workers of the Peking General Internal Combustion Engine Plant doing the new set of exercises.

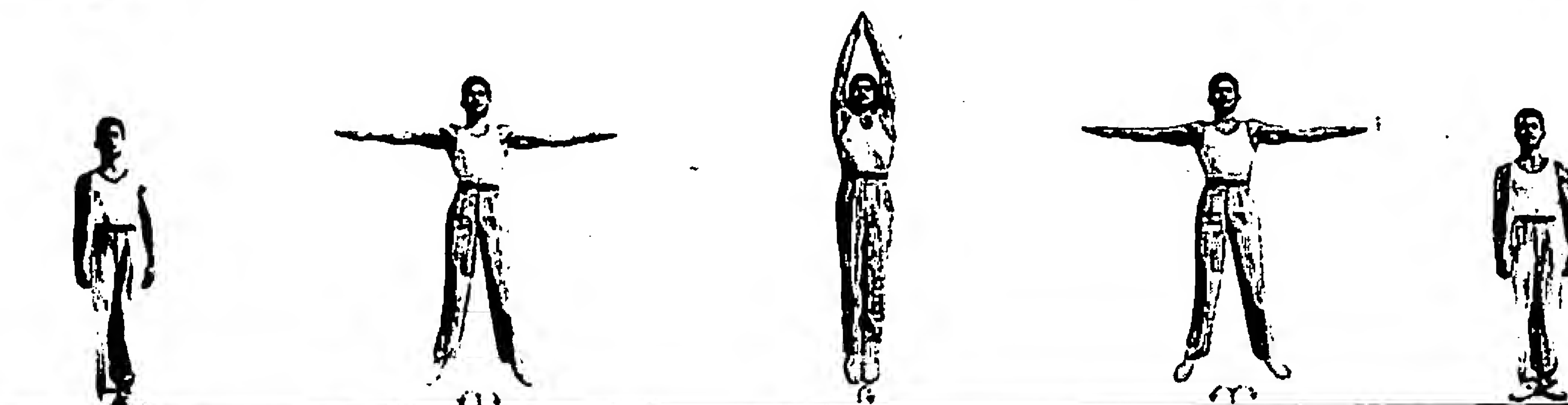
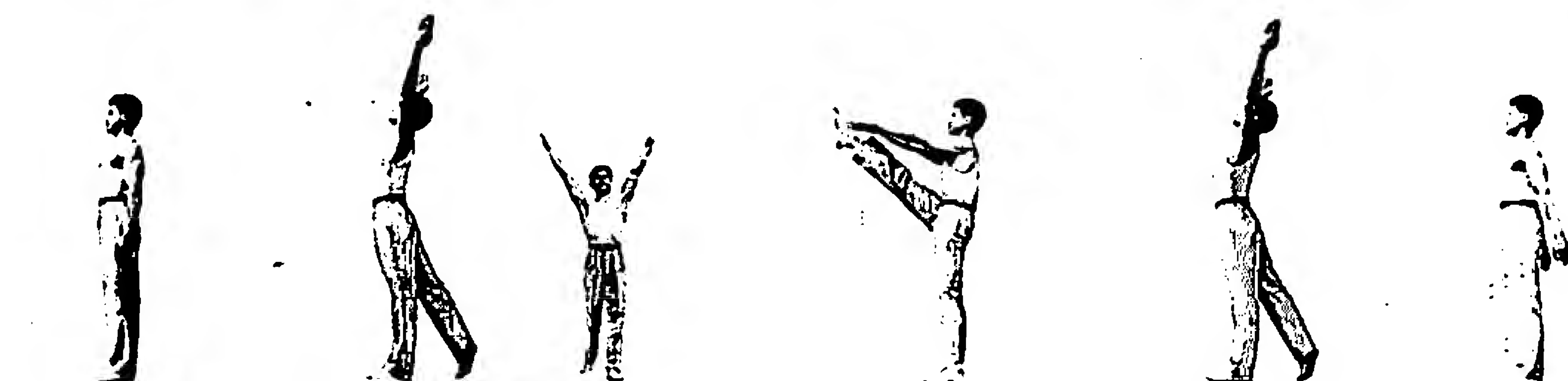
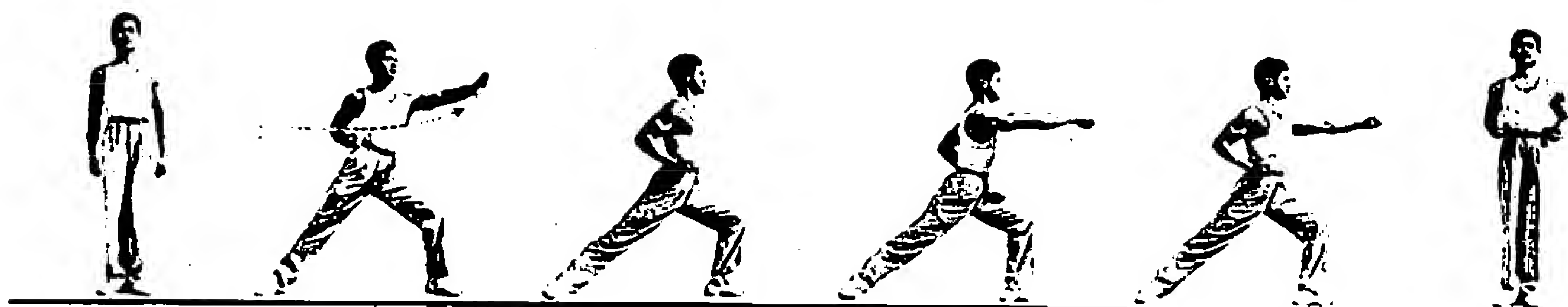




movements for the back and those which involve chest expansion and stretching of the arms and shoulder muscles. In a little over a year the group gave an initial set of exercises nine different try-outs in factories, communes, army units, offices, schools. As a result of the findings, eight additional improvements were made.

The new set of exercises were issued under the auspices of the State Council and the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. Calisthenics have been a regular part of Chinese life since late 1951, when the country's first set was issued by the Preparatory Committee of the State Commission on Physical Culture and Sports. Subsequent sets of exercises were introduced in 1954, 1957 and 1963. In 1954 the Political Council, now the State Council, adopted a decision to allow time for exercises during each morning and afternoon work period.

The present set was widely popularized through TV demonstrations. Some places of work invited special coaches to teach the movements. The exercises have been accorded an enthusiastic response. In Shanghai, department store employees do them at their posts before the stores open. The exercises have caught on in a big way in the countryside too. In one brigade of a commune in Taishan county, Kwangtung province, as many as 1,500 people — 79 percent of the population — turn out for calisthenics before going to the fields. Even the conductors on trains organize the passengers to do calisthenics on the platform when the train makes a long stop. The passengers welcome the opportunity to stretch themselves and get a breath of fresh air.







Trade talks in textiles.



Hydraulically operated single-crystal furnace.



Model of the coal dock in the port of Tsingtao.

In the foodstuffs hall.

In the chemical industry hall.





LONG LIVE THE GREAT UNITY OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE!



Businessmen and visitors from all parts of the world entering the autumn fair.

# The Kwangchow Export Fair

**T**HE traditional port city of Kwangchow is host to visitors at the Chinese Export Commodities Fair. The month-long fair has been held every spring and autumn since 1957. The autumn 1971 fair was the thirtieth. A festive, red-bannered city welcomes the thousands of businessmen and visitors from all the continents, all of whom find their way to the big fair building on Haichu Square to look around and talk business.

## Equality and Mutual Aid

China's export fair was established according to Chairman Mao's early declaration that "the Chinese people wish to have friendly cooperation with the people of all countries and to resume and expand international trade in order to develop production and promote economic prosperity".

After liberation in 1949 and three years of economic rehabilita-

tion, China put her First Five-Year Plan to build socialism into effect. This laid the material basis for export. Thus, in the spring of 1957, China's various import and export companies cooperated to hold the first fair. New products as well as traditional Chinese export products were exhibited.

The fair grew bigger as China's socialist construction developed and commercial relations with more and more countries in the



world were established. The first showing exhibited 12,000 industrial and agricultural products. By last autumn the number was over 30,000. Visitors to the first fair came from only 27 countries and regions. At the last one over 20,000 came from a hundred countries and regions from all over the world, 16 times the number at the first fair.

Socialist foreign trade is based on the principle of equality, mutual benefit and mutual help. Thus China's trade people give an equally warm welcome to all guests at the fair, whether they are from large countries or small, whether they are old customers or new. Both export and import talks are carried on at the fair.

#### Variety

Although the first fair in 1957 exhibited some new industrial products manufactured during China's First Five-Year Plan — such as paper-making equipment, weaving and knitting machinery, ordinary machine tools and chemical raw materials — farm and agricultural sideline products made up the majority of the exhibits. In the following years, the national economy developed rapidly under Chairman Mao's general principle of **“maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts”**. Agricultural production has risen steadily, and important industries such as steel, petroleum, chemicals, machinery and electronics have been established or greatly developed. Quality has also been improving.

Today products of heavy and light industry make up a large

proportion of the exhibits. The recent fair had divisions for ores, hardware, machinery, electrical industry, chemical industry, medicine and health, light industry, textiles, agriculture, animal husbandry and sidelines, native products and foodstuffs.

Since 1966 the cultural revolution has given a tremendous push to the development of industry and agriculture. New products, new technology, new techniques, new materials have accordingly appeared at the fair.

The heavy industry halls now exhibit special-shaped steel tubing, alloy steels, various types of high-grade gasoline, lubricating oils, plastics, synthetic fibers and rubber, a number of high-precision machine tools, each of which can process complicated parts of various shapes, electronic precision instruments, single-crystal silicon, hydraulically operated single-crystal furnaces, and complete sets of machinery and equipment for the mining, electric power, communications, transport and textile industries.

Light industry exhibits more new varieties and makes of watches and clocks, bicycles, sewing machines, cameras and other photographic equipment, leather goods, porcelain, pottery and textiles.

The agricultural halls show grains, oils, cotton, silk, tobacco, fruit, tea, eggs, meats, aquatic products, Chinese traditional medicines, furs, leather and local handicraft products from all over the country.

Over 5,000 new products or varieties were presented at last autumn's fair. A big increase

comes from the machinery, electrical, chemical, textile and light industries. The hundred models of small and medium-sized agricultural machinery for plowing, planting, harvesting, irrigation and for processing agricultural and sideline products were almost all new items exhibited for the first time — a reflection of industry's strong aid to agriculture. Over 75 percent of the textiles on exhibit were new products or new varieties.

The continuous development of China's national economy has created good conditions for foreign trade. Trade agreements made at the Export Commodities Fair last autumn were double what they were in autumn 1965 before the cultural revolution.

#### Promoting Understanding

With the cultural revolution, in an attempt to promote understanding of China's current progress, the fair began to show the achievements of advanced individuals and groups in the country. A total of 230 have been featured to date. Workers, peasants, P.L.A. men, cadres, commercial personnel, medical workers and school graduates who have gone to the countryside come to talk with the guests about how they, their comrades or their collective use Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought to guide their production and struggle.

The “Learning from Taching” and “Learning from Tachai” exhibition halls reflect how China's workers, peasants, soldiers and intellectuals, responding to Chairman Mao's call, launched an ever-deepening mass movement to learn from Taching in industry and from Tachai in agriculture. Taching



oilfield and Tachai agricultural production brigade were praised by Chairman Mao as national models in socialist construction.

Twelve years ago, in order to smash the imperialists' and revisionists' oil blockade on China, the Taching workers launched a great battle to locate and develop an oilfield on a barren plain. Overcoming tremendous difficulties, in three years they built a modern oilfield relying chiefly on themselves, thus contributing to China's self-sufficiency in petroleum products. The exhibits show the increasing number of petroleum and chemical products produced annually at Taching and its new records in drilling speed.

In the "Learning from Tachai" hall, visitors see how the Tachai brigade in Hsiyang county, Shansi province, has relied on its own strength to transform nature and build up a socialist countryside. Last year Tachai greatly accelerated the building of irrigation works, levelled nine hilltops and built more terraced fields. They succeeded in growing cotton and southern rice in their northern mountain region. For the past two years their average grain yield per *mu* has surpassed 1,000 *jin* (or 7.5 tons per hectare) — the target set for the rich lands south of the Yangtze River.

These two exhibition halls also describe other advanced industrial

and agricultural units of the Taching and Tachai type. Visitors can see that it is the thousands of such Tachings and Tachais that are leading China's industrial and agricultural production to steadily higher levels.

The fair also invites its guests to visit factories, schools and kindergartens in the city, people's communes on the outskirts and neighboring county towns. Among the most interesting trips have been those to hospitals to watch acupuncture anesthesia being used in various types of surgery. All these activities of the Kwangchow Fair help to promote a better understanding of China by foreign friends.

The "Learning from Tachai" hall.





# AN OLD REVOLUTIONARY BASE —YESTERDAY AND TODAY

CHI HUNG

A tea plantation established in the hills of Hsingkuo county, Kiangsi province.



The Lenin Primary School. Chairman Mao once lived here and held investigation meetings during a visit to Changkang township.



Wenchangkung, site of a class for training cadres for the agrarian revolution.

**H**SINGKUO county in the hilly region of southern Kiangsi province was one of China's earliest revolutionary bases. During the Second Revolutionary Civil War (1927-1937), Chairman Mao visited it many times to investigate conditions and hold training classes. He mobilized the peasants to strike down the local tyrants, divide the land and work toward seizing political power through armed struggle.

Not long ago, we visited two museums in the county built during the cultural revolution to record the people's struggles of those revolutionary years. On display are items such as stationery, chairs and tables used by Chairman Mao while he worked in the county. There are exhibits of the paper currency used in the base areas, notices, grain coupons, official seals, various citations, land certificates and the identification cards of martyrs' families. Banners, armbands, rifles, swords and spears used by the Red Army and Red Guards are also on display. After the Red Army withdrew from Hsingkuo, the people hid these mementoes of the revolution, although they were risking their lives. After liberation they turned them over to the people's government.



During our visit, the narrations of the museum guides brought alive many moving incidents from the revolutionary war. In the museum in Changkang township is a replica of a scarf presented by Chairman Mao to the leader of a women's plowing team which had taken the lead in doing the work in the rear area. At that time the Kuomintang reactionaries were launching repeated encirclement and suppression campaigns against the base areas, and 80 percent of the men (and some women) in Changkang township had joined the Red Army. The women not only became the main force in production, but also did many other things to support the front, such as helping Red Army men and serving as transport teams and stretcher bearers. Chairman Mao praised the Changkang women as models for their contribution.

From the museum we went to two wooden bridges at the entrance of the village, one quite small and the other somewhat larger. On an investigation trip to the township in 1933 Chairman Mao saw the small bridge. In his 1934 article "Be Concerned with the Well-being of the Masses, Pay Attention to Methods of Work", he called attention to a wooden bridge that was dangerously narrow and suggested that it be widened. The smaller bridge is the one mentioned in this article. Later he wrote the township government to ask whether the bridge had been widened. A larger bridge was built, but the smaller one was also kept. The Changkang people are deeply moved when they think of Chairman Mao's concern for all the practical problems of their everyday life.

The leaders of today's Hsingkuo county are carrying on this tradition taught by Chairman Mao. When a section of a road is damaged by rains, they lose no time repairing it. Hearing that the property of a brigade in Lungkou commune was damaged by fire, the county revolutionary committee recalled how Chairman Mao had cited the Changkang township gov-

ernment for appealing to the masses for contributions to help a poor peasant when fire destroyed part of his house. The committee promptly helped the brigade restore production and aided those families which had suffered in the disaster. Today commune members say, "The comrades on our revolutionary committee are carrying on the glorious tradition."

Half an hour's drive from Changkang brought us to Wenchangkung, where Chairman Mao once taught a class for cadres in the agrarian revolution. Here he trained many good cadres who worked conscientiously and won the love of the masses by really solving practical problems. Chairman Mao wrote that they "**have done first-rate work and deserve our praise as model workers**".

During the cultural revolution, the county revolutionary committee trained a large number of new cadres to carry on the revolution. About half of the members of the leading groups in communes, brigades and teams are new cadres. In 1965, the year before the cultural revolution began, young people made up only seven percent of the leading cadres at various levels. They are carrying out the fine tradition of hard struggle, modesty, prudence and close integration with the masses which Chairman Mao fostered. They continue the working style in which old and new cadres unite and cooperate. The masses are pleased to have such leaders. "A new generation of model cadres is growing up," they say. "The model county pointed out by Chairman Mao now has revolutionary successors."

Surrounded by mountains and crossed by the Lienchiang River, Hsingkuo county lies in a beautiful natural setting. Before the liberation, after the Red Army withdrew, the Kuomintang reactionaries' ferocious slaughter, looting and burning reduced its densely-forested mountains to barren, eroded wasteland. In every flood season the silted river was a scourge. Homes and farmland were washed away. Year by year agricultural

production dropped, there was little industry and the people were very poor.

After liberation, particularly during the cultural revolution, the attention from the Party and Chairman Mao has enabled Hsingkuo county to carry forward the fine working style fostered by Chairman Mao. They have worked hard in the spirit of self-reliance and brought about a rapid development in industrial and agricultural production. The standard of living of the people has improved greatly and the county has completely changed its appearance.

A diesel engine plant, an iron smelting plant, an automobile repair plant, a sugar refinery and a cement works have been set up. In some industrial products the area not only meets its own needs but can supply other places.

Marked progress has been made in reforestation and water and soil conservation. During the cultural revolution the county built 4,000 water-control projects and planted trees on thousands of hectares of mountains. Thus on two-thirds of the farmland stable yields are guaranteed, despite long spells of drought or too much rainfall. Grain production last year was 6 tons per hectare.

There has been rapid development in health work. Every commune has a medical center. The county has 200 medicinal herb shops. Medical workers number four times as many as before the cultural revolution.

A worker from the county store goes to the field to repair a sprayer.

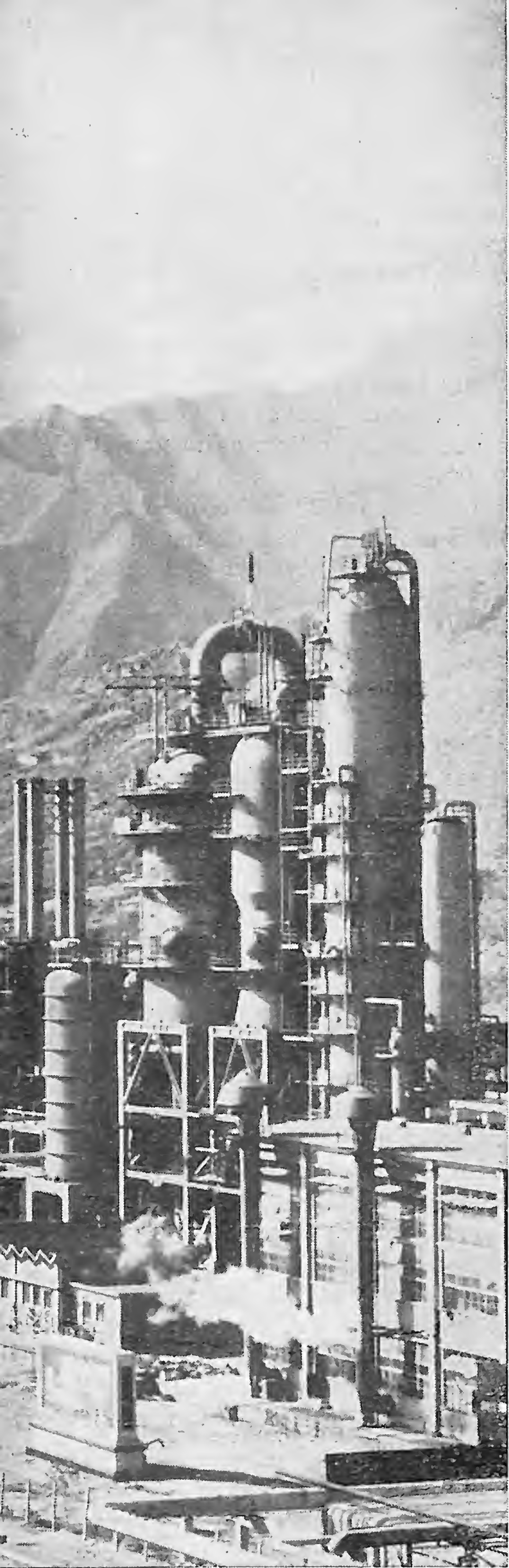






# **A Petrochemical Works Under Construction**





View of a portion of the Peking General Petrochemical Works.

A SPRAWLING petrochemical complex is rising in the foothills of the Yenshan Mountains southwest of Peking. Eleven different oil refining installations and one each for synthetic rubber, phenol acetone and polystyrene are already in operation. Others are under construction. The entire complex, called the Peking General Petrochemical Works, is China-designed, built and installed.

The three major refining installations and their subordinate projects were built in 1968-69 in less than a year, met all design requirements and went into production. They have overfulfilled state targets ever since.

Work began in the autumn of 1968. More than 10,000 workers, cadres, technicians and soldiers of the People's Liberation Army trekked over narrow and rugged mountain trails to a barren valley that had lain sleeping for thousands of years. Their task: to build the three major refining installations and start production before October 1, 1969.

The difficulties were many. Only 20 percent of the construction machinery and equipment had arrived. The assembling and installation of close to a thousand pieces of equipment, steel towers and oil tanks and the laying of several hundred kilometers of pipelines, a task usually requiring several years, would have to be done in less than a year. Since the refinery was to be built in the mountains, a tremendous amount of earth and stone had to be moved.

A few people were skeptical about meeting the schedule. "No one ever built three big oil refining installations in a year in China," was their argument. "We'll be doing fine if we only get the water pipes ready."

But the predominant thinking among the builders was that since it was a task entrusted to them by the Party and Chairman Mao, they were going to fulfil it no matter

how tough the job. "Difficulties scare only cowards and the lazy," they declared.

The old construction method of starting everything at the same time divided the work force. After much discussion they decided to eliminate this and do as Chairman Mao said in his essay *On Contradiction*: "In studying any complex process in which there are two or more contradictions, we must devote every effort to finding its principal contradiction."

It was decided to concentrate their forces first on projects for supplying water and electricity, the main units of the production installations, and projects requiring a long time to complete, such as the water cooling towers and heaters.

The builders plunged into work, emulating the spirit of self-reliance and hard work of the national industrial pacesetter, the Taching oilfield. Other units throughout the country cooperated with unstinting help.

#### Hard Work Plus Ingenuity

The blasts of dynamite broke the silence of the valley, red flags brightened the work site and fires lit up the nights. Men hung in midair with ropes around their waists to drive dynamite holes into the cliffs. When there were not enough pneumatic drills, they used hammers and drills. When there were yet no roads for trucks carrying heavy machinery to drive into the valley, the men moved the machines with muscles and shoulders. The major installations for the waste water purification plant were finished in several days. The team responsible for the oil products loading station levelled three granite hilltops, filled in three deep ravines and completed the 60,000-square-meter foundation by spring.

Eagerness to build the refinery faster inspired great ingenuity in methods of work. The usual procedure for setting up the vertical cylinder heater, for example, was

Staff Reporter



to lay the foundation first and then set up tall scaffolding for assembling the heater vertically section by section. This meant that each link of the work had to wait for the completion of the link before it. Racking his brains for a quicker method, master workman Sun noticed that on other work sites, towers were being assembled horizontally on the ground to be lifted into place later on. The leaders called meetings to discuss this and a detailed procedure was worked out. Work on assembling the heater began at once while the foundation was being prepared. The method eliminated scaffolding, avoided high-steel work and made it possible for more hands to help. The whole project was completed in less than two-fifths the specified time.

An important part in building the atmospheric and vacuum distillation installations was the welding of the manganese steel tower. The work had to be done in temperatures above zero to guarantee quality. But it was midwinter and the temperature on the work site was often a dozen degrees below zero. It meant either building a steam-heated workshop or sending the tower to be welded in some nearby factory. Was there a simpler method that would not cost so much money or take up so much time? Chou Heng-chih and other workers solved the problem by building a mat shed heated by three stoves made of oil drums. The welding was completed on schedule and quality was up to standard.

#### **'Our Aim Is the Same'**

Socialist cooperation played a big part in completing the project on schedule. Nearly 500 units in 20 provinces gave equipment and transport for the petrochemical works the green light.

The Anshan Iron and Steel Works was asked to make pipes for heaters. "Tell our brothers in

the capital," the workers told a representative from Peking, "we will deliver the best pipes we can make and on time too."

The rectangular furnace at Anshan was 10 meters long but the pipes required were 12 meters long. The workers solved the problem by setting the pipes obliquely in the furnace. The pipes were shipped off before they had completely cooled.

The Peking Tool and Die Plant had never manufactured pipe joints before but took the order to help out in an emergency. They sent workers to another plant to learn the process and then started on the joints at once. Workers gave up their Sundays to work on the order. They cooled the lathes with electric fans so as not to hold up work. Veteran worker Liu Fushiang hurt his finger but would not leave his machine. The plant delivered the order in two weeks. When the petrochemical works sent a letter of praise for this spirit of socialist cooperation, the men of the plant said, "We only did what we should have done. Our aim is the same."

#### **Improving New Equipment**

A few months after the refining installations went into production, China's industry went into a new upsurge. Inspired by the fast all-round development, the workers were eager to reach a high level in production. They proposed technical innovations on the equipment to tap potentials for producing more and better oil.

"But we haven't been in operation very long," some people argued. "Our equipment is already advanced. If improvements could be made, others would have made them long ago."

Others pointed out that things are developing all the time. What is advanced today is replaced by more advanced things tomorrow. Seven veteran workers of the atmospheric and vacuum distillation installation, which is known

as the "faucet" of the refinery, put up a poster proposing innovations on the equipment and calling on everyone to aim high and move forward at the run instead of a walk.

The poster actually spoke for many people and instantly started a general discussion centered around the question, "The 'faucet' wants to raise output. What are we going to do?" It resulted in a mass movement to look for shortcomings in equipment and make improvements.

The atmospheric and vacuum distillation installations were the first to form a group of workers, cadres and technicians who spent three days testing pressure, measuring temperatures and watching changes in instruments, pumps and heaters. They found room for improvement and took measures to raise the quantity of heat, thus increasing production.

Their success inspired the other shops. Workers in the catalytic cracking plant rechecked more than 1,000 items of data and decided to change the diameter of the 14-meter top section of the fractional distillation tower from four to six meters. A new top section was completed quickly but none of the cranes was tall enough to lift it into place. A reaction tower stood right next to the distillation tower, so some workers suggested setting the crane on top of it where it could do the job. But the crane and the top section together weighed over 100 tons, too much for the reaction tower. Experienced workers were consulted and the side of the reaction tower was reinforced with steel ribs. The top was then lifted into place without a hitch.

In 1970 the workers made six important innovations on the equipment so that output of oil products rose substantially and all targets were fulfilled 68 days ahead of schedule.

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Builders of the Peking General Petrochemical Works.









Installing refinery equipment.

This big modern chemical plant utilizes the tail gas and byproducts of oil refining to make various oil products and materials for the chemical industry.



Welding a giant oil tank.

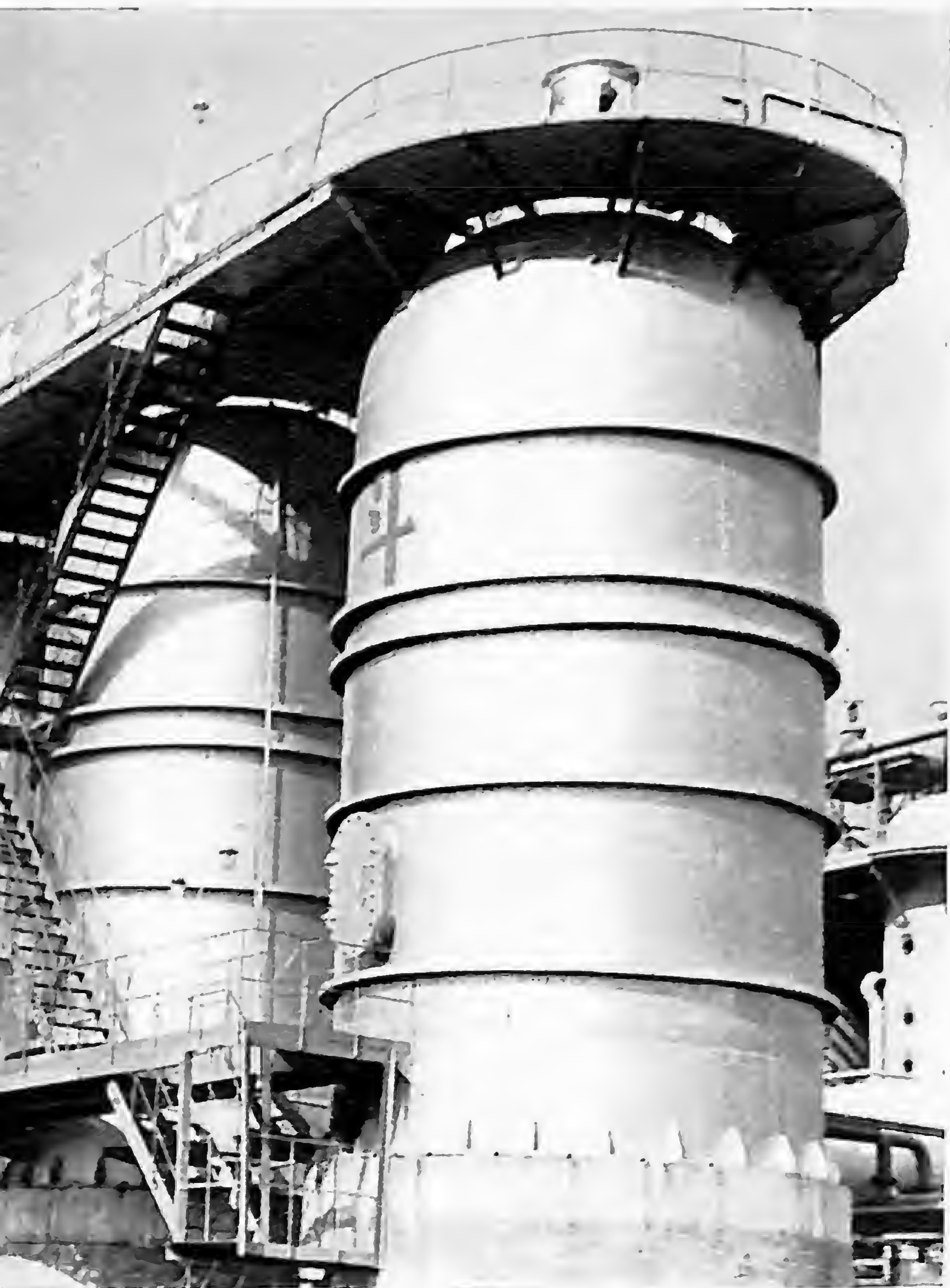
Latex tanks.



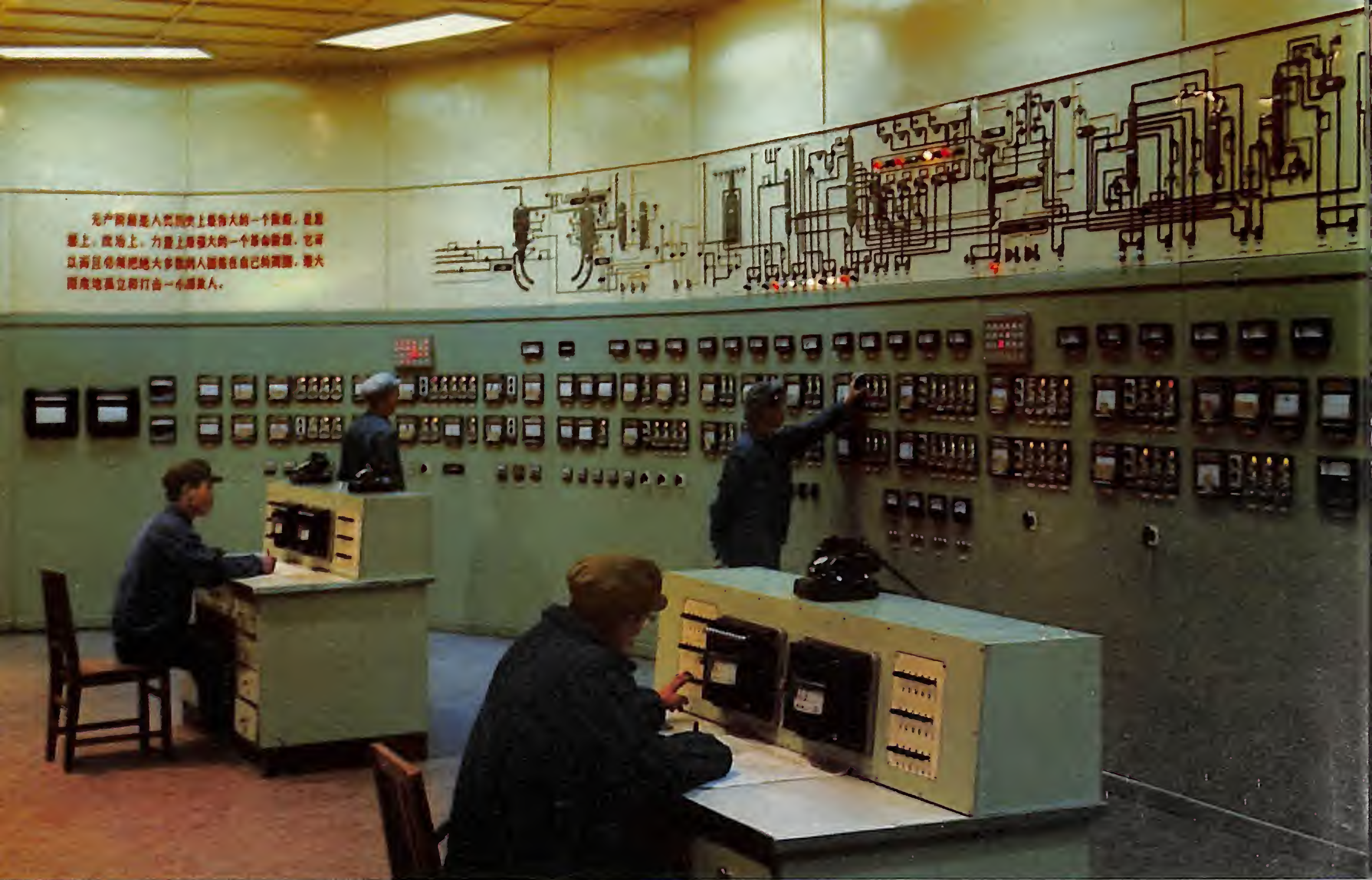




Discussing an innovation.











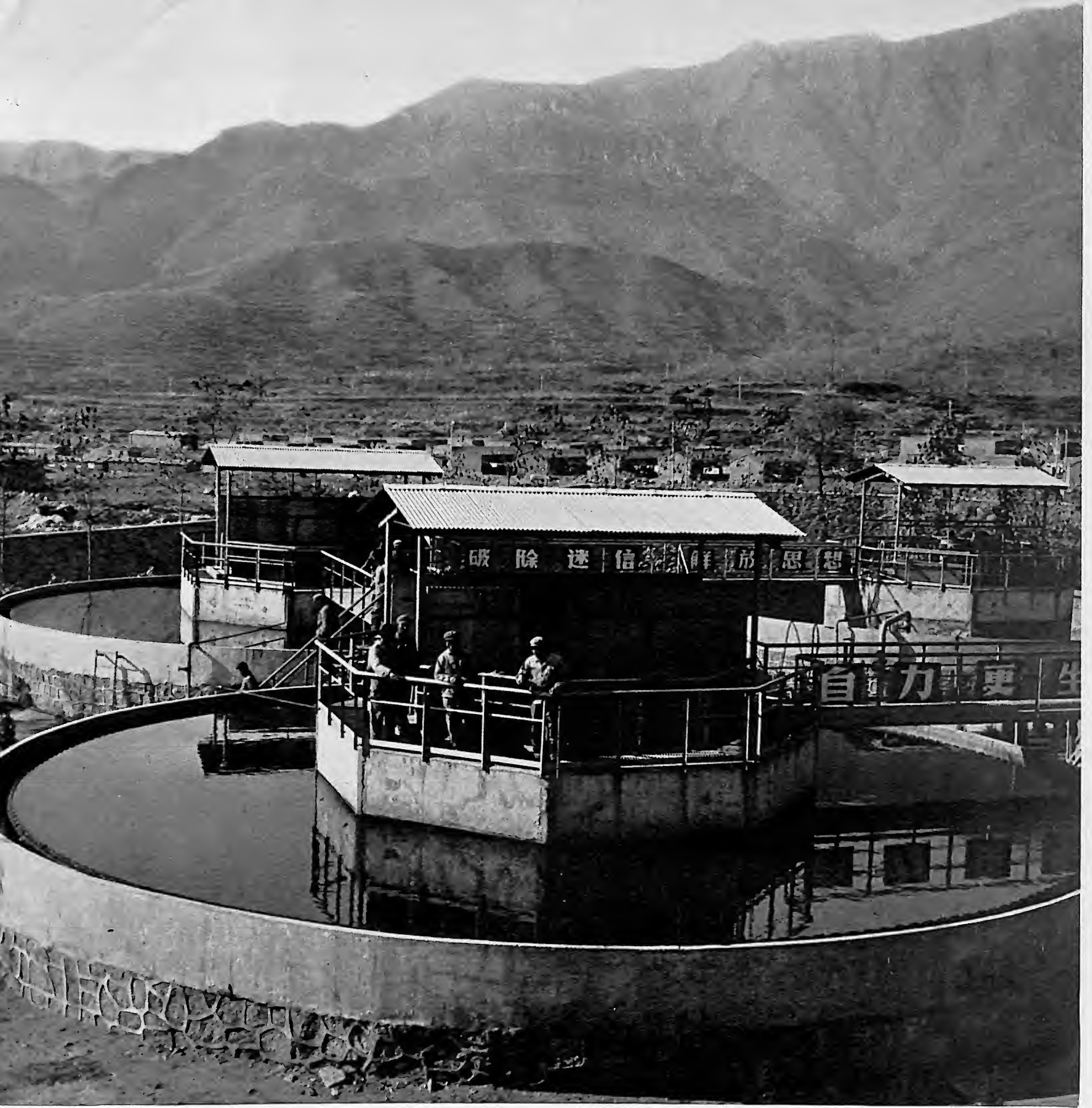
**Left:** Central instrument control room.

**Right:** Loading station.

**Below:** The new refinery.







Biochemical reaction pool.



Ducks thrive on treated waste water.



# Industrial Waste Water Serves Agriculture

**A**FTER the autumn harvest in 1971, the Peking General Petrochemical Works invited members of a local people's commune to their plant to get their opinions on the plant's treatment of its waste water, with which they had been irrigating their fields. The commune members produced a bundle of sturdy, full-grained rice grown with the plant's waste water. The yield had been higher than that irrigated with ordinary water. They also said they were enlarging their reservoir from 4 million cubic meters to 10 million in order to be able to use more of the waste water.

The plant director explained that after the waste water is treated it still contains quantities of ammonia and nitrogen which are excellent fertilizers. On the plant's own experimental plots, he said, maize had yielded 45.5 percent and soyabeans 43.6 percent more than plots of the same size irrigated with ordinary water. The commune members were very impressed. "You're making a big contribution to agricultural production," they told him.

Accompanied by workers, the commune members were taken on a tour of the plant's water reclamation

facilities. They learned that the vast quantity of waste water released daily by the plant contains, in addition to oil waste, harmful sulfides and phenols. If allowed to run off through the ordinary water-disposal facilities, such water, particularly its phenol content, would damage crops, pollute the rivers, kill water life and constitute a general health hazard. "The People's Government takes the problem of pollution seriously," a worker said. "To make our waste water usable, it provided several million yuan for building and allocated some of the necessary equipment."

One of the workers directed the attention of the commune members to a tall steel tower. "This is the tower where the sulfides are removed," he told them. The group moved on to six rectangular cement pools. Here, the worker explained, much of the remaining oil, which is lighter than water, is skimmed off and put back for refining. Next the water is pumped into an aeration tank where compressed air and a flotation agent are added. The water then flows through flotation pools where the foamy emulsified oil and flotation agent are scooped off. The only harmful chemicals still present are the phenols. These are removed in a round biochemical reaction pool where a huge rotary beater mixes into the water an activated sludge containing a laboratory-cultivated microorganism which absorbs the phenols in a biochemical reaction.

By this time the visitors had reached two ponds into which some of the treated waste water flows. In one swam delicate goldfish, demonstrating that the water was pure enough for them to live in. In the other Peking ducks were being raised. On a plot nearby big celery cabbages were growing. Signboards explain how the petroleum refinery's waste water is being used in this experimental agricultural station.

Flotation pools.







Turning peanuts being dried.

# Using Materialist Dialectics in Scientific Experiment

YAO SHIH-CHANG

I AM a peasant, now 48 years old. In the struggle to increase production I have constantly studied Chairman Mao's philosophical works to arm myself with materialist dialectics. Applied to my scientific experiments, this helped to gradually raise the average per-hectare yield of peanuts grown by our brigade from around 1.5 tons to 3.4 tons. The highest has gone over 6 tons.

## Lessons from Failure

Our brigade has some 320 hectares of fields, mostly in hilly areas. We cultivate peanuts on about 133 hectares of this. Before we set up our agricultural producers' cooperative, the average per-hectare yield of peanuts was about 1.1 ton. Although we raised this some, it was still low.

In 1953 I began trying to find a way to raise our yield, but my experiments failed. In the spring of 1958 when we started sowing we were hit by drought. There was not enough moisture in the soil,

---

**YAO SHIH-CHANG** is chairman of the revolutionary committee of the Tuan-chieh production brigade, Nanwang commune in Shantung province.

Yao Shih-chang



CHINA RECONSTRUCTS



and it looked as though the seeds would not sprout. I had heard that the Tsaolintien production team used a method of plowing deep furrows and covering them with only a thin layer of soil in order to make sure all the seedlings came up. I got our brigade to use their method — but our output dropped that year.

I felt sad at the mistake. Now the leaders asked me to analyze our experience and draw lessons from it. I began to study Chairman Mao's *On Practice* and *On Contradiction*. "Only those who are subjective, one-sided and superficial in their approach to problems," he wrote, "will smugly issue orders or directives the moment they arrive on the scene, without considering the circumstances, without viewing things in their totality (their history and their present state as a whole) and without getting to the essence of things (their nature and the internal relations between one thing and another). Such people are bound to trip and fall."

Chairman Mao's teaching cleared some things in my mind. I realized that I had made the error of imitating others without considering the concrete circumstances. The Tsaolintien

team's land is level and fertile, so they plant their peanuts in rows wide apart. Their method of planting seeds in lightly-covered deep furrows works well for their conditions. But our brigade's land is hilly and the soil is thin. So we plant in rows close together. When we plowed deep, the soil fell in the previous furrow and buried the seeds. We were actually plowing deep and covering deep. This was the reason why output fell.

### Probing the Laws of Growth

I was determined to find the laws governing the growth of peanuts so as to blaze a trail to increased yields. But how? I went back to *On Practice* and got the answer. Chairman Mao teaches that "whoever wants to know a thing has no way of doing so except by coming into contact with it, that is, by living (practising) in its environment".

I started my research by studying the blossoming stage. We knew, of course, that peanuts yield pods after the flowers wither, but we did not know when and how they blossom. I selected two clusters of peanut plants to see what happened in that stage right there in the

fields. I stayed with them all night. At three o'clock on the third night, I found a bud beginning to blossom. One and a half hours later, it burst into full bloom. I was excited. In two decades of farming, I had never known that peanuts blossom before dawn.

This discovery was only the beginning of my observation and analysis. Now I set out to find the internal relations between blossoming and bearing pods.

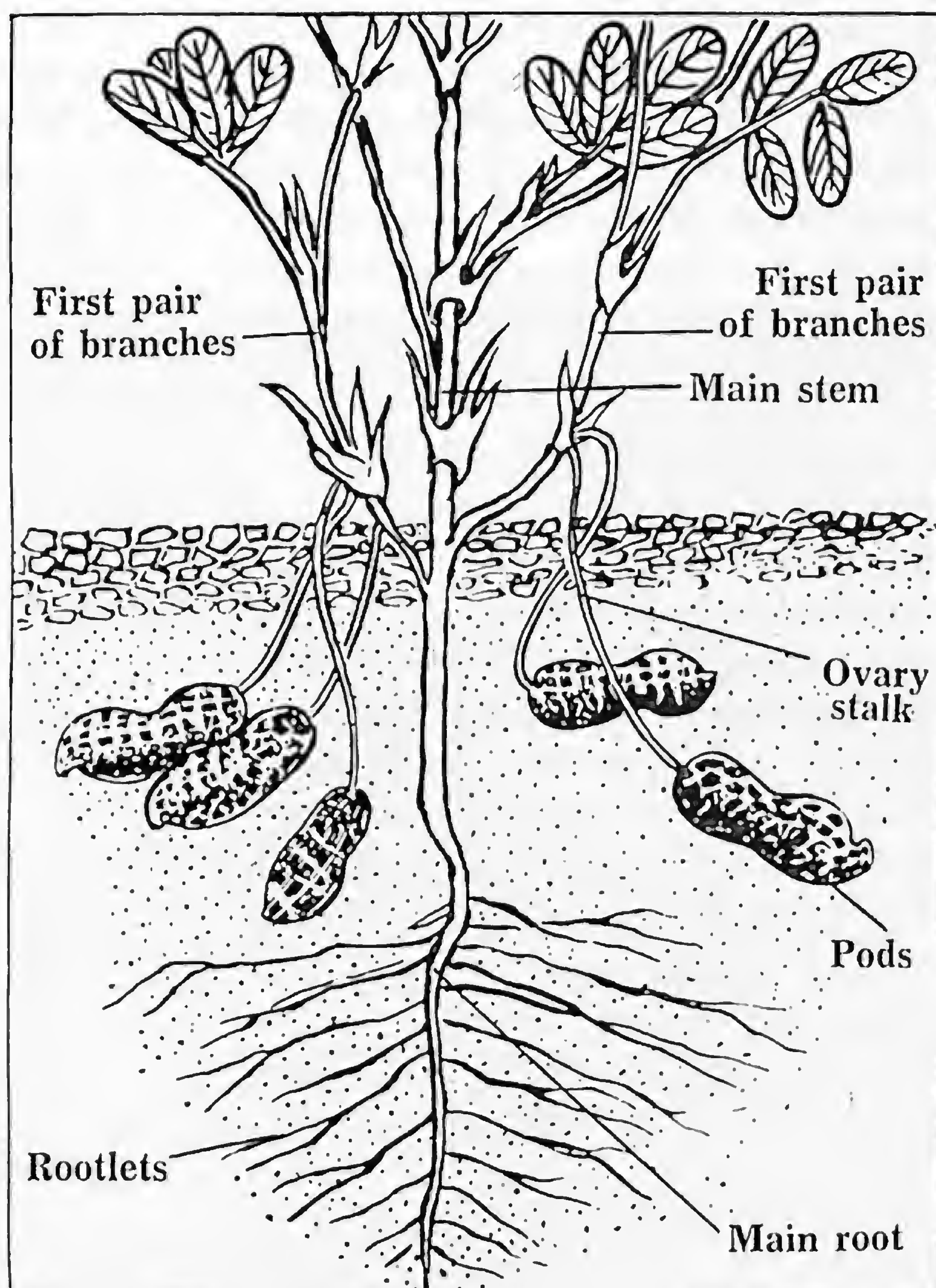
The blossoming period is long, for the large peanuts 100-120 days, for small ones 70 days. I went to watch the peanuts every night before dawn. For data purposes, I put a small label on each flower, noting the date it blossomed. Rain or shine I worked 60 nights this way, putting 170 labels on my two clusters. After the harvest I carefully analysed the data I had collected and discovered something that I had never thought of — it took at least 65 days from flower to the ripened nut underground and most of the nuts were produced by the first pair of branches!

Now I was really excited. But I considered it calmly in the light of Chairman Mao's teaching, "Discover the truth through practice,

Commune members remove the earth from around the base of peanut plants to hasten their branching, blossoming and bearing pods.



MAIN STEM AND BRANCHES OF THE PEANUT





and again through practice verify and develop the truth." Obviously I should test this first year's discovery in practice again.

My observation and study the second year confirmed this law of the growth of peanuts. But I also made a new discovery. Between 60 to 70 percent of the pods were produced by the first pair of branches and 20 to 30 percent by the second. Only a few pods were by the third, and most of them were empty. The main stem of the large peanut had no flower and no pod at all. Two years of practice had divulged this secret and helped me understand some of the interrelations involved in the growth of peanuts.

### Resolving Contradictions

From *On Contradiction* I knew that contradiction is present in everything and things only develop among contradictions. Having found some laws governing the growth of peanuts, I thought that to increase the yield it was essential to get the best out of the first and second pairs of branches. Shallow sowing was preferable, because sowing the seeds deep in the soil would slow down the bearing of pods by that first pair of branches which grew round the base. Drought made our soil dry almost every spring. Moreover, the large oil-rich seeds took a long time to sprout. Shallow sowing would cause these seeds to dry up easily, not all the seeds would sprout and increasing the yield would be impossible.

How to solve this problem? I took it to Chairman Mao's teaching, "In studying any complex process in which there are two or more contradictions, we must devote every effort to finding its principal contradiction. Once this principal contradiction is grasped, all problems can be readily solved." If we want to increase the peanut yield, I thought, we must first of all ensure that all our seeds sprout. Without this a high yield is out of the question. Therefore, the principal contradiction was to ensure the growth of all the seeds, and the method of resolving it was deep

sowing. We would sow the seeds as deep as we had to.

Having solved this question, the problem of the first pair of branches came up: buried deep in the soil they would not grow well. Formerly a secondary contradiction, now it became the principal contradiction.

Once I saw an old peasant removing the soil from around the roots of glutinous millet seedlings to facilitate tillering. This was a possible solution to the contradiction: remove the earth from around the base of the peanut seedlings to hasten their branching, blossoming and bearing pods. The overgrowth of the seedlings could thus be checked and at the same time, weeds around their roots be cleared. Three years of experiments proved that this method was a good one. This measure alone brought a 20 per cent increase in the brigade's yield of peanuts.

New contradictions crop up continuously and we advance continuously in the course of resolving them. On the principles expounded in Chairman Mao's *On Contradiction* and *On Practice*, I discovered and solved some other contradictions in growing peanuts. One of them was the question of when to sow. Too late or too early would lower the yield. Using what we had already learned of the laws of the growth of peanuts, we found the proper time was around the 6th of May when the temperature of the soil settled down at 15° C.

Another example was the contradiction between the main stem and branches — the overgrowth of the stem would slow the growth of the branches which bore the pods. Drawing on the experience in topping cotton plants, we worked out the solution: cutting off the top of the main stem to check its overgrowth and thus hastening the growth of the branches. The yield of topped plants went up about 8 percent.

### Seeing Dialectically

Continued practice, probing into the laws of peanut growth and constant contacts with contradic-

tions in my scientific experiments led me to this conclusion: Since all contradictions have two opposing aspects, when we look at things, we should see the reverse as well as the obverse side of them.

Take the density of peanut seedlings, for example. To plant closely or plant farther apart are the two opposing aspects of a contradiction. Before, we did not understand their dialectical relation and put it one-sidedly: close planting on fertile land makes the plants grow well. But it does not work on poor land. We experimented and failed.

Later we found that to increase the yield of peanuts we have to handle the relations between the individual and group correctly, especially the relations between close-planting and thin-planting. In a large field, a cluster of peanuts is the individual and all the plants on the field are the group. In a cluster, a plant is the individual and the cluster is the group. As the number of plants in the group increases, the individual plant gets less air and sunlight, does not grow as well and the yield cannot be raised. On the other hand, if the number of plants in the group is reduced too far, the yield cannot go up either. So to make the individual and group adapt to and promote each other, first the density of planting must be correct, then other factors such as soil fertility, strains and fertilizers must be adjusted.

Another example. We were also one-sided in the way we looked at the question of seed selection. We thought that peanuts from bumper-crop fields must be good and could be preserved as seeds. But the fact was that though the yield of the bumper-crop fields was high, the peanuts they produced were smaller. In addition, nourished in sufficient water and fertilizer, they had poor adaptability and were thus not suitable as seeds. The good seeds, we found, were borne out of sandy soil. They were big and solid, contained less water and had a strong adaptability. By correctly handling this contradiction in our practice, we gradually improved the quality of our seeds.





Mali, a Tibetan medical worker.

## Health Work Develops in Tibet

**A** NETWORK of medical and health services which serves more than a million people has been established in China's Tibet Autonomous Region, an area of more than a million square kilometers. Lhasa and all county seats have hospitals and public health centers. People's communes and production brigades are rapidly acquiring their own clinics and peasant doctors.

Before liberation, the ordinary Tibetan people had no medical care whatsoever. Two medical centers existed in all of Tibet, but these were only for the Tibetan reactionary ruling class. Serfs who needed medical treatment could only go to a lama or a witch doctor who fooled them with concoctions made of mud and incense powder, for which they often had to pay a yak or a sheep. When the reactionary rulers in Tibet were frightened by infectious diseases, they often drove the sick serfs and slaves into a barren valley to die. Chiangpai, an emancipated serf of Tangku commune in Linchow county, has a bitter story to tell about this.

Thirty years ago a smallpox epidemic raged in his village. Many, including his brother, were





The People's Hospital in Lhasa.

hit. But more terrible than the disease were the three manorial lords — the reactionary local government, monasteries and nobles — who ruthlessly drove all sick villagers into a valley and forbade them to come out. Because Chiang-

pai chose to go with the sick ones in order to take care of his brother, he saw the people die. His brother did not escape death either. When Chiangpai tried to come back to the village, the estate-holder would not allow it on the pretext

that he had been with the doomed. He was forced to wander about until the liberation of Tibet.

After the peaceful liberation of Tibet in 1950 the People's Government introduced free medical service for the Tibetan people as part of the Party's policy towards nationalities. All charges for medicine and hospital beds are paid by the state. Many young Tibetans have been sent to study in medical colleges in Peking and other cities. More than 400 of them have already become the first generation of Tibetan doctors and medical workers. Special hospitals are set up to develop Tibetan medicine — a component part of Chinese medicine.

The People's Hospital in Lhasa was established in 1952. It now has 22 departments, 300 doctors and medical workers and 200 beds. Many difficult illnesses are handled successfully. Complicated surgery, including the removal of a part of the liver or lungs, is done.

Peking medical workers discuss medicinal herbs with Tibetan peasant doctors.





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Pingtso, an 18-year-old shepherdess, had suffered from cysticercosis for a long time. When she arrived at the People's Hospital she was scarcely breathing. Surgeons removed a 16-kg. cyst and she soon recovered.

In the past the reactionary ruling class spread superstitious feudal ideas among the people. For example, it was considered sinister for the laboring women to give birth in their houses. The serf-owners usually forced them to move into a cowshed or sheep pen. Nobody knows how many mothers and babies died under such conditions.

Today medical workers go out among the Tibetan people to teach the common knowledge of scientific medicine and health. The People's Hospital has obstetrics and gynecology departments and a maternity ward. Women living far away can be admitted to the maternity ward ahead of time. Midwife services are available to those who live nearby. Obstetrics and gynecology department statis-

tics show that the survival rate for the newborn babies is 98 percent. Before liberation, under the cruel oppression of the manorial lords, the population of Tibet decreased each year. Since the democratic reform in 1959 the population has increased by 18.6 percent.

In 1965 Chairman Mao issued the instruction, "In medical and health work, put the stress on the rural areas." To put this into practice the medical workers in Tibet, bedrolls and medical kits on their backs, went to the countryside and pasturelands to treat the peasants and herdsmen. They have raised the people's hygiene levels to prevent disease and trained peasant doctors for the communes without taking them away from their work for too long a time. There are now over 3,000 peasant doctors throughout Tibet. Most of the communes and townships have their own medical and health workers. A mass movement to collect and process medicinal herbs has been launched. The new acupuncture treatment is being spread.

Tibet under the oppression and exploitation of feudal serfdom was hell for the working people. Only one of the consequences was that five percent of the population in pastoral and rural areas were blind and deaf-mute. After the democratic reform in 1959, Tibetan medical workers learned from advanced units in other provinces how to remove cataracts in a traditional Chinese way and use acupuncture treatment to cure deaf-mutes. They taught and popularized it in the whole region. For the past few years they have been very successful in this field. Treated carefully, hundreds of blind people have regained their sight. Tsering Dorji, a part-time peasant doctor of the Red Flag commune in Tatzu county, has recently removed cataracts from five blind patients. Thirty-three deaf-mutes in the Leap Forward commune on the banks of the Lhasa River have regained their hearing and learned to speak under careful treatment by the medical personnel of a People's Liberation Army unit.





The Doling area in Tibet, where the ichthyosaur fossils were found.

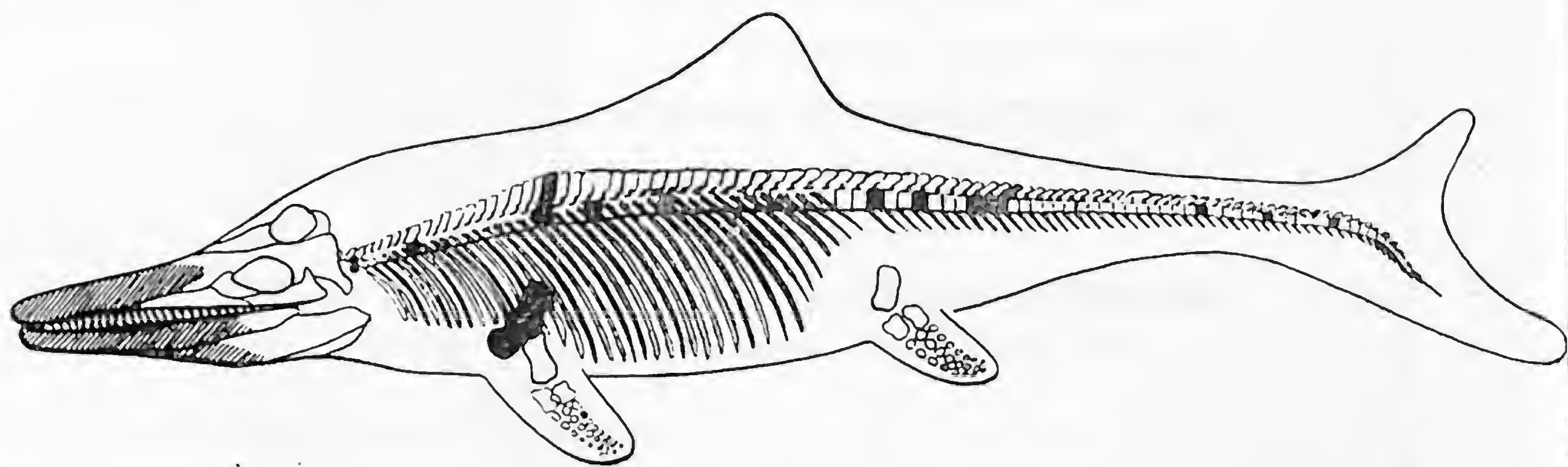


Exposed ichthyosaur fossils. The hammer indicates a tail vertebra.

**T**WICE during the cultural revolution China's scientists made comprehensive, large-scale multi-purpose surveys of the area around Mount Jolmo Lungma, the world's highest peak, obtaining a mass of valuable scientific material and data. Among the important discoveries in paleontology were the fossils of an ichthyosaur (fish-lizard) dating back 160 million years. It was found near Doling village, Nyalam county, 4,800 meters above sea level on the south side of the Himalayas, the world's highest known site of fossil vertebrates.

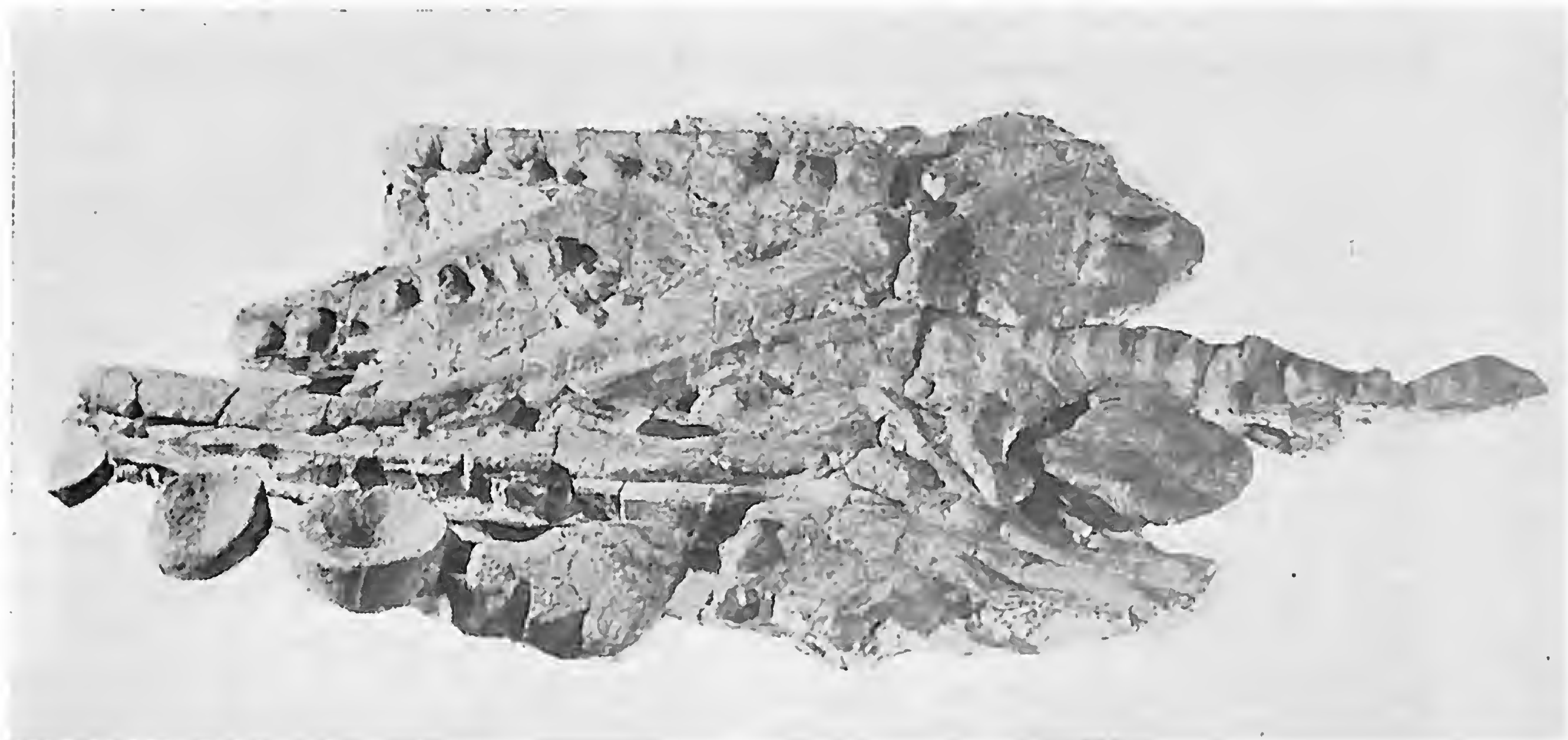
The ichthyosaurs are an extinct group of marine reptiles. The earliest known ichthyosaur fossils, consisting of two vertebrae, were discovered in 1708 at Zurich, Switzerland. The naturalist T. T. Baier maintained that these fossils belonged to a kind of ancient fish, while Scheuchzer, another naturalist, believed they belonged to man.

# Ichthyosaur Fossils from the Himalayas



/////// PRESERVED BONES

Diagram of restored ichthyosaur skeleton.



Ichthyosaur skull and vertebrae.

The debate went on for a century until Mary Anning, a 12-year-old English girl, found more ichthyosaur fossils in 1814. The daughter of a poor family, she made a living by collecting shells and fossils and selling them to rich people. On the cliffs overlooking the English Channel she discovered the complete skeleton of an ichthyosaur. Only then was it realized that the ichthyosaur was an animal appear-

ing to be intermediate between the fish and the reptiles. The eminent French paleontologist Georges Cuvier said this extraordinary animal had the snout of a porpoise, the teeth of a crocodile, the head and breast bone of a lizard, the limbs of a whale and the vertebrae of a fish.

The ichthyosaur was highly adapted to aquatic life. It had a spindle-shaped body, a fleshy fin





Members of the investigation team and a Tibetan commune member dig up fossils.



Discussing restoration and reconstruction.

on its back and limbs which had become fin-shaped in adaptation to paddling. It had an asymmetrical tail fin similar to that of a shark, except that the backbone bent downwards into the tail, producing an "inverted shark's fin".

The ichthyosaur found in the Mount Jolmo Lungma area was over ten meters long. Like those already known, its body was shaped like the modern porpoise.

It had a long, pointed snout with flattened conical teeth in its upper and lower jaws. The skull had a triangular appearance, with large round eyes. The backbone was a column of biconcave discs, becoming long, narrow and flat in the tail. While some characteristics of the Mount Jolmo Lungma specimen approximate those of the North American *Shastosaurus*, others, such as the mode of devel-

opment of the teeth and the characteristics of the limb bones, are different. Thus, the Mount Jolmo Lungma specimen has been considered as a new species — *Himalayasaurus tibetensis*.

Fossils of sharks and many invertebrate animals, mainly ammonites, were found along with those of *Himalayasaurus tibetensis*. From studies of these and the strata in which they were found, we know that *Himalayasaurus* lived during the Late Triassic.

These studies indicate that 160 million years ago the Himalaya Mountains — the world's highest and youngest mountain range — were a vast sea in which *Himalayasaurus tibetensis* swam. With its spindle-shaped body, powerful tail and paddle-like limbs, the ichthyosaur was the king of the oceans of that period. A fast swimmer with a voracious appetite, it caught fish and cuttlefish. Although the Himalayan Sea was vast, it may be inferred from the circumstances in which *Himalayasaurus* was buried that the water in the Nyalam area where it was found was not too deep, probably not over 200 meters.

In the Triassic period the ancient Mediterranean Sea (called the Tethys Sea) and the Himalayan Sea were connected. To the south was the Gondwana continent, comprising the lands of India, southern Africa, Australia and Antarctica. To the north was the Angara continent, comprising most of Asia and Europe. The waters of the modern Atlantic and Pacific oceans were connected by the ancient Himalayan and Mediterranean seas. The discovery of *Himalayasaurus tibetensis* in the Mount Jolmo Lungma area furnishes additional evidence for this view in paleogeography.



海上放映队

Hǎi Shàng Fàngyǐngduì

Sea-borne Projection Team

一天晚上, 东海海面一艘机船上  
Yi tiān wǎnshang, Dōnghǎi hǎimiàn yì sōu jīchuán shang  
One day evening, East Sea sea-surface a motorboat on

挂起了一块银幕。渔民们欢欢喜喜地  
guàqǐle yí kuài yǐnmù. Yúnmén huānhuānxǐxīde  
hung a screen. Fishermen happily

划着小舢板向这艘机船靠拢。他们  
huázhe xiǎo shānbǎn xiàng zhè sōu jīchuán kàolǒng. Tāmen  
rowing small sampans towards the motorboat approached. They

相互招呼: “看电影啦! 看电影啦!”  
xiānghù zhāohu: “Kàn diànyǐng la! Kàn diànyǐng la!”  
each other hailed: “See movie! See movie!”

一位老渔民高兴地对人说, “我活了  
Yí wèi lǎo yúnmín gāoxìngde duì rén shuō, “Wǒ huóle  
An old fisherman happily to others said, “I (have) lived

六十多岁, 在海上看电影还是头一次。”  
liùshí duō suì, zài hǎi shàng kàn diànyǐng hái shì tóuyī cì.”  
sixty over years, at sea on see movie still first time.”

这是不久以前的事。一次, 江苏省  
Zhè shì bùjiǔ yǐqián de shì. Yí cì, Jiāngsū shěng  
This was not long ago event. Once, Kiangsu province

大丰县的宣传站听到了这样一个  
Dàfēng xiàn de xuānchuánzhàn tīngdào le zhèyàng yíge  
Dafeng county's propaganda station heard such a

建议: “长年生活在海上的渔民很  
jiànyì: “Cháng nián shēnghuó zài hǎi shàng de yúnmín hěn  
suggestion: “Long years live at sea on fishermen very

希望看到电影。你们能不能组织  
xīwàng kàndào diànyǐng. Nimen néng bu néng zǔzhī  
hope (to) see movie. You could not could organize

放映队到海上给他们放电影?”  
fàngyǐngduì dào hǎi shàng gěi tāmen fàng diànyǐng?  
projection team to sea on for them show movies?”

宣传站立即接受了这个建议。  
Xuānchuánzhàn lìjì jiēshòule zhège jiànyì.  
Propaganda station immediately accepted this suggestion.

上船放电影, 遇到了一些  
Shàng chuán fàng diànyǐng, yùdào le yìxiē  
Getting on boat (to) show movies, (the team) met some

困难。有些队员不习惯海上生活  
kùnnan. Yǒuxiē duìyuán bù xíguàn hǎi shàng shēnghuó,  
difficulties. Some team members not used (to) sea on life,

常常晕船。但是, 他们终于克服了这些  
chángcháng yùnnáhuán. Dànshi, tāmen zhōngyú kèfúle zhèxiē  
often seasick. But they finally overcame these

困难, 定期出海放电影, 受到了渔民  
kùnnan, dìngqī chūhǎi fàng diànyǐng, shòudào le yúnmín  
difficulties, regularly go to sea (to) show movies, by fishermen

的欢迎。  
de huānyíng.  
welcomed.

Translation

One evening, on the surface of the East Sea a screen was hung out on a motorized junk. The fishermen happily rowed small sampans towards the junk, greeting each other with, “Come on, there’s a movie!” An old fisherman said, “I have lived over sixty years and it’s the first time I ever saw a movie at sea.”

This happened not long ago. The propaganda station of Dafeng county in Kiangsu province received a suggestion: “The fishermen living at sea all year round want movies. Could you organize a sea-borne projection team for them?” The propaganda station promptly accepted the suggestion.

Showing movies on a junk gave the team some difficulties. Not used to life at sea, some members got seasick. Finally they overcame these difficulties and now go out to sea regularly to show movies for the fishermen. The team is much welcomed by the fishermen.

Explanatory Notes

1. In Chinese the syllables of some adjectives can be repeated for emphasis. E.g., huānxǐ 欢喜 means “happy” and huānhuānxǐxǐ 欢欢喜喜 means “quite happy”.

2. Dì 地 actually means “land”. But by putting this word after an adjective, the adjective becomes an adverb. E.g., huānhuānxǐxǐ 欢欢喜喜 means “happy” and huānhuānxǐxǐde 欢欢喜喜地 means “happily”. In this case, 地 is pronounced de not dì.

3. Rén 人 means “man”, “person”. But in lǎo yúnmín ... duì rén shuō 老渔民……对人说, rén means “others”.

4. One way of forming an interrogative sentence is by following the verb, auxiliary verb or adjective with its negative form. E.g., In Nimen néng bu néng zǔzhī yíge fàngyǐngduì? 你们能不能组织一个放映队? (meaning “Could you organize a projection team?”) the auxiliary verb néng 能 (can) is followed by its negative form bu néng 不能 (cannot) and the sentence becomes an interrogative one.

A Simple Key to Pronunciation

Consonants: b, c (ts), d, f, g, h, j, k (as in *kill*), l, m, n, ng, p (as in *peak*), q (as in *cheer*), r (as in *run*), s, t, w, x (as in *ship*), y, z (dz), zh (as in *rich*), ch (as in *chew*), sh (as in *shrub*). The last three are pronounced with the tip of the tongue curved back.

Vowels: a (as in *father*), o (ô), e (û), i (î), u (ô), ü (as in *German*), after j, q and x, u pronounced as ü. The sounds of combination vowels such as *ai* and *iao* are as in English.

To save space, letters in which the sound is the same as, or similar to, that used in English are not further described.

A fuller key to pronunciation of the phonetic alphabet used in this column may be obtained on application to *China Reconstructs*.





Special counter in the department store to sell new cotton prints made in Peking.

A customer waits for his bag to be mended.



# Stores and Salesmen in Peking

Staff Reporter

**S**ALESMEN in socialist China do their best to serve the people in every way. Here are some examples.

## Going to the Customers

In the southwest district of Peking, people often see a salesman or saleswoman parking a pedicab in a residential neighborhood and shouting, "Basins and bowls for sale, kitchen utensils repaired . . . !" In minutes, housewives and children gather around the pedicab to buy bowls, chopsticks, brooms and other wares or get their old basins or washboards repaired.





Shops-on-wheels also repair things for customers.

This is one of the shops-on-wheels of the Hsuanwu Hardware Store which has 17 branches scattered over the Hsuanwu district. In 1968 the 300 salesmen of the store had many discussions on how to apply Chairman Mao's teaching of serving the people wholeheartedly. Waiting for customers to come into the store, they realized, was not giving good service.

Going out to their customers would be difficult, but they should try to suit the people's convenience as much as possible. They began sending comrades out on pedicabs selling in the streets twice a week while others continue selling behind the counters.

The customers like this service. But then some of the pedicab sales-

men said, "Only selling new goods is not enough. To give real service we should also repair pots and pans and other items." Others agreed. So they began repair work for their customers. They do their jobs enthusiastically and charge very low prices.

One day when Young Wu was selling on a pedicab, she received a wooden washboard from an old woman to re-ridge. She gave the old woman a small bamboo ticket as her receipt. Two days later when Wu brought the repaired board back, the woman could not find the ticket. Wu said, "No hurry, grandmother, you take the washboard, I'll get it next time."

A few days later Wu stopped again to get the ticket. Moved, the old woman said, "I'm sorry, girl! The repair only cost 8 fen, but you've come over here three times!"

"Don't mention it," Wu replied. "We do our best to serve the people."

In the past four years the clerks of the store have sold great quantities of articles for everyday use this way. They have also repaired hundreds of thousands of articles for the customers.

One day a peasant from the Ting-fu village commune south of Peking came in to order 200 huge jars for soaking seeds and storing grain. With successive bumper harvests, the peasant said, they no longer had enough. The store soon got enough jars ready for the commune. Then at a study meeting in which they were studying Chairman Mao's *Serve the People*, the question came up: to wait for the peasant to come for the jars or deliver them to the commune? The correct direction for socialist commerce to develop was to support socialist production and serve the worker and peasant masses. So 28 salesmen and 16 saleswomen, each riding a pedicab with jars on it, started out the next day for the countryside. It was a long way to go. When the train of 44 pedicabs finally reached the village, it was already dark. Flashlights in their hands and beating gongs and drums, the peasants welcomed them into the village. The sales-



men intended to go back the same night, but the commune members would not let them go. "Tonight," they said, "you must eat our good country food and rest on our warm kangs (brick beds)!"

This was how they started making trips to the countryside. The latest was a trip of 18 days by seven salesmen to repair daily-use articles for the peasants. On two pedicabs and five bicycles, they travelled from one village to another, welcomed everywhere.

Saleswoman Chi Shu-chen had only learned how to repair umbrellas. Now in a remote brigade of the Lukouchiao commune, when she had finished an umbrella, she was asked to repair a bicycle lock. None of the seven knew how. Then Chi Shu-chen saw that the lock was of the same type as the one on her bicycle. She took her own lock apart and with the help of her comrades she learned how it worked. When she succeeded in fixing the commune member's lock, he said, "Thanks a lot for all your help!"

"Don't thank us," Shu-chen answered, "thank Chairman Mao. He teaches us to serve the people wholeheartedly."

### Care for the People

The big department store on Wangfuching Street, one of the main shopping districts, is the largest in Peking. With a total area of 13,000 square meters it provides over 22,000 kinds of goods. Every day about 100,000 people shop here. Busy as they are, the salesmen in beige service jackets receive their customers with warm concern.

One day an old woman wanted to buy a pair of knee-guards for her daughter. But the item had just been sold out. Salesgirl Ma Shu-fang asked for the woman's address and promised to let her know when more arrived. The knee-guards came in the next day. "That customer lives a long way off," Shu-fang thought, "and she's old. I'll take them to her tonight." After work, Ma Shu-fang made the trip.

Workers and peasants often need to buy what they want before they go to work in the early

morning or after their night shift. So in 1968 during the cultural revolution, the department store opened a morning and evening shop. In 1970 it began to stay open all night, one of 50 such stores in Peking. (There are 600 morning and evening shops in the city.)

At night the noises in the streets gradually die out. But it becomes busy and crowded in the all-night shop of the department store. The shelves carry about 800 kinds of goods including confectioneries, canned foodstuff, knitwear, bags, stationery, metal appliances and common medicines. An average of 5,000 customers come in each night, most of them night-shift workers, commune members transporting vegetables to the city and passengers changing trains at Peking.

At one end of a counter a salesman handles stamps, monthly bus tickets, long distance calls and other items of service for the customers. A worker commented, "We not only buy what we need here but we can get many other things done too. With this kind of service we can sleep soundly in the daytime."

At three o'clock one morning three men hurried in for a wide-mouth thermos bottle and some ice.

They wanted it at once to fly blood plasma and other medicines to a worker in a distant place who had been seriously burned. Their plane was to leave at five. The shop had no such thermos. While salesmen set off to get the thermos from the warehouse, others phoned around to food shops for ice and finally went to an all-night restaurant to get it. The three comrades left the shop promptly at four o'clock, well satisfied.

One morning at six it suddenly began to rain heavily. At a bus stop across the street from the store, some workers stood waiting for the bus. "Hey, we should take some umbrellas out to those workers," one of the salesmen said.

Three of them went out to the stop, welcomed and praised by the workers. An old worker who bought an umbrella saw that the salesmen were soaking wet. Moved, she warned them, "Drink some hot sweet ginger tea when you go back and be careful not to catch cold!"

### New Look of an Old Market

Opposite the department store is the famous Tung Feng Market.

Established in 1903, it was originally called the Tung An Market. By the eve of liberation

All-night shop of the Peking Department Store.





in 1948, many of the small shops in the market had closed — the result of big capitalist fish swallowing little fish under the reactionary Kuomintang rule. The market was dying.

After liberation it got a new lease on life and developed rapidly. In 1968 and 1969 during the cultural revolution the shabby, gloomy shops were torn down and a new 7,000-square-meter market hall, five restaurants, an office building, two dormitory buildings and a storehouse were built.

Today the market sells 17,000 kinds of consumer goods and even sells a single sock, or glove, or shoe so that customers can match their damaged or lost articles.

Once a young worker lost one of his track shoes which he had put behind the seat of his bike while hurrying to join a cross country race. He wrote the market hoping to get another one. Old Hu, one of the salesmen, went to visit the worker and got the widowed shoe which was of a specially large size. He looked in vain for that size in several wholesale departments. Finally he found it in a storehouse of a rubber plant. When Old Hu brought the matched pair of shoes to the worker, his neighbors all crowded around. "With serve-the-people salesmen, even a shoe can be matched," they said.

On the southern side of the hall is a quick-repair group which re-

pairs or mends things at once. While they wait for their clothes, suitcases, bags or other items to be repaired, the customers talk with the group members.

One evening about closing time after a busy day, a worker who had just arrived in Peking on a mission came in to have his trousers mended. Noticing it was time to close, he hesitated. But Yao Yu-min, a sewer, said to him, "Never mind. I'll finish it in a minute!" As the worker paid for the mended trousers, he shook hands with Yao and said, "Thanks a lot, comrade."

Such ordinary service demonstrates the serve-the-people spirit of salesmen in socialist China.

## STAMPS OF NEW CHINA

IN honor of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Albanian Party of Labor and the successful opening of the Party's Sixth National Congress, the Chinese Ministry of Communications issued a set of four stamps on November 8, 1971.

Stamp 1, 8 fen, a photograph of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the great leader of the Albanian people. Light blue, turquoise-blue, black, salmon and vermilion.

Stamp 2, 8 fen, the site of the founding of the Albanian Party of Labor, now a memorial hall. The words in red across the lower part read: "The site of the founding of the Albanian Party of Labor" and the dates 1941-1971. Light blue, emerald, chestnut, light orange-brown and vermilion.

Stamp 3, 8 fen, a pick and a rifle beside the Albanian national flag signify the way the Albanian people, with pick in one hand and rifle in the other, are building and defending their motherland. Vermilion, black, orange-brown and grey.

Stamp 4, 52 fen, a worker, peasant and soldier of Albania, all bearing arms, ready to defend Albania's sacred territory against any encroachment. Light blue, buff, green and brown.

Printed on the four stamps are the words: "In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Albanian Party of Labor" and "1941-1971".

All the stamps measure 40 × 30 mm. Perf. 11½. Photogravured. Serial numbers 25-28.

## Albanian Party of Labor's 30th Anniversary





